

But begynneth a life

of a man that was called Howleglas, and
of many marueylous thinges and Jesses that
he dyd in his lyfe, in Eastlande and in many
other places.



For the great desyring and praying of my good
frandes. And I þ first writer of this boke might
not denye the. Thus haue I compyled & gathered
much knauynnes & fallnes of one Howleglas mad-
and done within his lyfe, whiche Howleglas dyed þ
yere of our lord God. M. CCC. & L. Nowe I des-
yre to be pardoned both before ghostly & worldly, as
for hygh & lowe as for noble and vnnoble. And right
lowly I requyre all those þ shall reade or heare this
presēte Jette (my ignorauce to excuse.) This fable is
not but only to renewe þ mindes of men or women,
of all degrees to þ vse of sadnesse to passe the tyme,
with laughter or myrthe, And for because þ sim-
ple knowyng persones shuld beware if folkes
can see. We thinke it is better to passe the
tyme with suche a mery Jette and
laughe there at and doo no
synne: than for to
wepe and do
synne.
(•••)

¶ Howe Howleglas as he was borne,
was christened thre tymes
vpon onedaye.



In the lande of Wallen, in the byllage of
Kuelmige, there dwelleth a mā that was
named Nicholas Howleglas that had a
wife named Wyppke, that lay a child be
in the same byllage: and that chylde was
borne to christening & named Cyell Howleglas. And
than the chylde was brought into a tatterne where
father was wyth his gosseppes and made good chere
whan the mydwife had wel dronke, she toke þe chylde
to here it home, and in the way was a litle brydg ouer
a muddy water. And as the mydwife would hane goe
ouer the lytle brydge, she fel into the muddre with the
chylde, for she had a lytel dronk to much wyne, for had
not helpe come quickly the had both be drowned in þe
muddre. And whā the came home with the chylde, the
made a kettle of warm water to be made red & ther
they washed þe chylde clen of the muddre. And this was
Howleglas thre tymes in one dai cristered Once at þe
churche, once in the muddre, & once in þe warm water

¶ Howe that Howleglas whan that he was a
chylde, answered a man that asked
the waye.

When a tye went Howleglas father & mo
ther out & left Howleglas withi þe house
¶ Than cāe ther a man rydyng half into þe
dore & asked is there nobody withi: the
answered þe chylde yes ther is a man & a halfe, & a horse
head. ¶ Than asked the mā wher is thy father: And the
chylde answered & sayd, my father is of pl, making wone:
And my mother is goe for scath of shame And þe man
sayde

sayd to the childe, how understandest thou that? the
the childe sayd: My father is making of yll wolle, for
he ploweth the seide and maketh great holes that me
should fall therein whan the ride And my mother is to
borow bread, and whan she getteth it agayne and gy-
ue it lesse it is shame, and whā she getteth it & getteth
more that is leathe. Than said the man which is the
way to ryde: and the childe answered and sayd there
where the gees go, and than rode þ man his way to þ
gees and when he came to the gees the flew into the
water, than wist he not wher to ryd but turned again
to the childe and sayd the gees be flown into þ water,
and thus wot I not what to doo nor whether to ryde
Than answered the childe ye must ryde where as þ
gees go, and not where the swyne. Than departed þ
man and rode hys way & marueyled of the answer of
the childe.

Howe Howleglas sat vpon hys fathers hors behind
hym.

Any greete cōplayntes cā before the father
of Howleglas, how his sone was a deceiver of
folkes, and a great mocker. This complaint was
made on hym whan he could go, and whan he lay in þ
cradle, he tumbled vpon the quilthins wyth hys arle
vppward, and whan he came to þ age of nyne yere old:
he let no vngreuousnes scape fro hym, in so muche þ
all the neybouris complayned on hym. Than sayd his
father to him howe commeth this that þ people com-
playneth soo to mee, they say that ye be a mocker & a
deceyuer: Than sayde Howleglas good father I doo
nobody harme and that shall I shew vnto you. Take
a horse

a horse and go vpon his backe and I wyll ryde behind
you than you shal see what the people wyll say to me
and than lyght his father vpon his horse and toke his
loone behynde hym, and whan he was vpon the horse
he shewed the people his asle. Than said the folke what
vngacious knaue and begger is that? Than sayde
Howlegias to his father now we may ye heare, I holde
my peace and speake neuer a woorde, and yet saye the
that I am a knaue and a deceiver of folke. And than
his father toke him and sette hym before hym on the
horse, and than began he to grin & put out his tongue
vpon the people that his father sawe not, & than the
people sayde see what a cursed young knaue is there.
Than sayd his father to Howlegias, thou was borne
in an unhappy tyme, so: now thou sittest before me &
doest no body harme: & yet for al that they do call the
a knaue and a begger. And so departed Howlegias fa-
ther out of the land of Mayda brochim a village fro
thence where his wyfe was, & within short space dyed
And than abid Howlegias mother with him, and eat
and dranke together suche as the night gette, for she
was but poore, & Howlegias would go to no craft but
when he was sixtene yere old he began to dafce vpo
a corde, and no other wyse.

Howe Howlegias fell fro the rope into the water
wherof the people had good spote.

When a tyme Howlegias played vpo þ corde
that was set ouer the water, wher he made
good sport, but at the last there was one þ
cut the rope, so fell he into the water & was
all to wette, & he came out as well as he might, for þ

spyte he thought to quyte the a gayn. And said to the
 come agayne to morowe and I wyll doe many more
 wondrous vpon the rope. And þe next dai after came How-
 leglas and daunced vpon the corde, and than he sayde
 to the yonge folke ye shall see what newes I can doe.
 Gyue me euery body your ryghte shoe vpon the rope
 ende, so they dyd, and the olde men also. And whan he
 hadde daunced a while he caste them their shoen vpon
 a hepe and bad them take their shoen eche of them a
 gayne. Than ran they after their shoen and for haste
 one tumbled ouer the other, and than they began to ly
 together by the eares, and smyte with their fyftes soo
 hard that they fell both to the yearth. One said wepig
 this is my sho, and the other laughed and cryd that is
 my shoe. And thus for their shoen laye they together
 by the eares. Than began Howleglas to laughe, cry-
 ing seeke your shoen: efferday ye bathed me, and he
 lepte fro the corde and went his way to his mothers, &
 durst not come out agai in the space of a moneth. And
 so he taried with his mother, wherof his mother was
 glad but she knew not the cause why he dyd with her,
 nor what he had done.

¶ Howe Howleglas mother learned hym and
 had hym go to a crafte.

Whybeke the mother of Howleglas was glad that
 her sonne Howleglas was so lottre and wyse, &
 she sayd that he wryght not lyue so and get moni
 as the witch. And than she sayde to her sonne that he
 should learne a crafte. And than answered Howleglas
 to his mother, what thing is that that a body should
 dyspose him self to, that should abyde by him all his life
 And his

And his mother answered cleue contrary & sayde þ
me also thiketh for in .iii. daies I haue had no bread &
my house shoulde I not abide & suffre al my lyfe. I had
better die. Than said Howlegias this is not an answer
to my question, but I will answer now to yours, &
said. A poore man hath nothing to eate he must fast
saint Nicholas day, and he hath meate may eat on
saint Martins euen. And in likewyse it is with you.

¶ Howe Howlegias gat bread for.

And he told his mother.

AS Howlegias mother was thus wout bred
thā be thought howlegias how he might best
get bread for her. Than went he out of þ village to a
towne thereby called stafforde, & went into a bakers
house, where he asked þ baker if he wold send his lord
for .iii. s. bread. Som whit and some rye, & he named a
lorde that was of an other land, but he at that tyme
was lodged at an inne in the towne, & bad the baker
let one go with him & that he shoulde haue his money
& the baker was content. And than Howlegias gaue
þ baker a bagge that had a hole in þ botom, & therein
put he the bread & so departed with the bakers ladde
& whan he was in an other street he let fall .iii. whyte
loues at the hole in þ butt. And than bad howlegias
to the bakers seruante sete downe the bagge & goo
fetch me other whyte breade for this, for I dare not
bere it to my lord. And than went þ bakers seruante
home to chaunge the bread, and in the meane whyle
went Howlegias w the sacke of bread home to his
mothers. And whan the bakers seruante came again
to the place and found not Howlegias, he returned
home againe & told his master how Howlegias hade
serued

serued him. & than the baker heard that Howleglas
was gon his way with his bread: than cariþ baker to
the Jure that Howleglas named him, & asked the ser-
uantes of the lordes for Howleglas, but the said they
came none suche, & than knew the baker that he was
decepued & so returned home. Than said Howleglas
to his mother, eat and make mery now you haue it
& whan you haue nomore eye must faste.

Howe Howleglas creeped into a bae hyue, & howe
he was stolen in the nyght

Upon a tyme went Howleglas to his mother
to the biddeing of þe church. And there he
drake so muche that he was dronke, & than
wente he into a garden therby, where stode many bee
hives & ther he sought wher he might haue a place to
sleepe in, & at the laste he founde an emptye bee hyue,
wherin he put hym self to sleepe for that nyght. Than
came therein the ded of the nyghte, two theues for to
steale a way the hyues, and the yfelte which of þe hy-
ues was best, for they thought therein was moost
hony, so at the last they felt the hely that Howleglas
was in and than sayd the thefe to his felowe here is
on that is very hely this wyl I haue, take thou ano-
ther & let vs go. Than toke they the bee hives on thei
necks & departed. Than awoke Howleglas & herd al
what the said, And it was so darke that the one knew
not the other. Than put Howleglas his hāde out of þe
hyue, and pulled the foremost by the heare where with
he was angry and sayde to his felowe behynde hym,
why pullest þe me by the heare. And than he answered.

I pull

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I pulled by the hert & I hane as much as I can do
as beere in the, and with his whole after he pulled
the hundermoste by the here that was righte angre
(and layde, I were to beut that I were, and for al that
thou pulled me by the hert. Thou answered the for
moste thou self, how should I pinche the by the here
and I can scarcely fynde my waye, and thus went the
chydren by the way and as they were chiding: How
legias put out his hand a gaine & paled the foremoste
by the here, wherof he was angre and set downe his
hute and toke his felowe by the head, & thus they th
bled together by the here in the strete and at the lalle
whan the one had well beten the other, they ran their
waye and left the hutes lying. and than slepte how
legias in the be hute til in the morning, and than he
stole and went forth, and as he wente he came by a
castell knowen in, and the lorde asked him if he wold
make a murther and he said yea, and than the lord hired
him and upon a tyme he rode with his maister bi the
way wher shode henge. Than said his maister to him
whan thou fyndest suche ferde wyte therein, for there
with men be hanged upon the gallows, and by the
wheelles, both theues and murtherers. Than answered
Howlegias that he wold wote and his maister said so
because that he was a thefe. and in the night went a
robbyng and a thefing for he wold almost theby. On
a tyme as his maister was at supper the cooke called
Howlegias and bade him go into the seller & let he
him the murtherer out of a pooder than went How
legias & he murtherer that a cooke bade him go fetch
a venturouse. Than answered he what he met for
the murtherer was a thefe. Than thought he, whan

binde me therewith, then went Hotleglas into the le-
ter, and ther he sought about and at the last he found
the pot, with mustard, and than he remembered how
sayd, my maister had me that whete I found any such
seede that I shold syte therein, and than he put his arse
ouer the pot, and syt therein a great heape, and then
he syt it a bout together and brought it to þe coke
and thā he cooke welled the mustarde in saucers and
send them to the table and the lord tasted, and it so-
uered al thā said he to the cooke what haue you good
in the mustarde, for it satirreth the lyke as there were a
sturde therein: And then began Hotleglas to laughe,
than said his maister wheret laughest thou: thinkest
thou we can not tasten than taste thou. And than an-
swered Hotleglas I eate no mustarde, for mote you
not what ye had me do whan that we were ouer suche
seede, that whā I found such seede you that thou I shold
syte in it for with such seede you sayn men were ban-
ged: and so haue I sytten in the seede. Than said his
maister, a thou unhappy knaue this seede is not lyke
the seede of hemp: but I knowe this by very good rea-
son that thou be a deile of our conuynce a great falsnes,
and than he toke a staffe and wold haue stryked Hot-
leglas. And then Hotleglas toke his legges and ran
away, & his maister after him, but he coude not ouer-
take him. Then he returned home agayn and Hot-
leglas wold no more come there.

And Hotleglas was herd of a pichel
of Hotleglas ran out of þe castel, he came to
a village that was called Dumbell & the land
of Wyndesore. And ther came a pichel to Hotleglas
and byed him, but he byed him not: & the pichel sayd
to him

so by that he should have good dayes and rate it
by the same measure that he himselfe & his woman
demande al that should be done with half the labour
e than sayd Hologias & there after would he do his
diligence. Then bressed the priestes woman to chikins
and she had Hologias turne and so he byd, and he lo
ked up and sawe that she had but one che, that whan
she chikins were enough that he brake one of the che
kyns for the spyt, and carrit without any bread, and
whan it was better tyme, came the woman into þe
chyn where Hologias turned, & thought to take up
the chikyn: and whan she was come, she founde no
more there but mee chikyn. Then sayde she to Holog
ias, where is the other chikyn: there were two che
kins than answered he to her, lift up your eye: than
that you se the other chikyn, than was the woman the
with anger & knewe well that Hologias mocked her
and whan she came to the priest & told him howe she had
bressed chikins, & whan she came to take the up she
found but one, & that he mocked me because I had but
one che: than went the priest to Hologias, & said whi
was this your woman: she was, the chikyn: than an
swered Hologias the churchwardens tithing, I have said
to the woman that she should open her eye, and shee
should se well where that other chekyn was become.
Then laughed the priest & sayd she cannot se she hard
but one eye: than sayd Hologias to the priest, the on
chikyn have I eaten, for ye sayd that I should eat and
drinke as well as you and your woman, and the one
I eat for you, and the other I eat for your woman
for I was afrayde that you should have tymed, for
the promise that ye promised me, & therfore I made

measure. Then sayd the priest I care not for the childe
but I wold have you please my woman and be a fre
ber. Then sayd Howleglas I do you remainment
and that þ woman had him do, he did but halfe for she
had him fetch a boket of water, & he went & brought
it but halfe full of water, & whā he shold bringe t'wo
loonges he brought but one, & when he shold gete
the bestes t'wo botels of hay, he haue the but one, &
whā he shold fetch a pot ful of bere, he brought it
halfe full, & so did he of many other thinges me. Then
complayned she to the priest of Howleglas again the
sayd þ priest. I had that you shold do as she bad you
and Howleglas answered I haue done as ye bad me
for ye said to me I shold do al thing w halfe labour
And your woman wold sayne see w both eyes: but
she seeth but with one eye and so do I halfe þ labour
& than the priest laughed and than said þ woman, wyl
you haue this vngracious knaue any longer: then w
not I tary no longer w you but depart. Then gaue
the priest Howleglas leue to depart for his womans
sake, but whā the party the clerke was dead of þ vil
lage, then sent the priest for Howleglas & holpe hym
so muche that that he was made the party the clerke

Howe Howleglas was made clerke
of Buddenesthe.

As Howleglas was clerke of the Churche, he
shuld helpe the priest to sing masse, and as he
stode afore the altar with the priest, the priest lette a
great fart that al the churche range thereof. Then said
Howleglas sy: person what offer you there, our lord
for frankincense: Then answered the person, what
haste thou to do there wyth for I haue the power to
shyte

lyde in the middes of the churche, and y^e wyll. Then
said Hollegias y^e holm barrell of beere that you shal
not lyde in the myddle therof. Then sayd the payell
y^e holde you, thynke you that y^e am not so hardy nor
holde to doo that. Then touned the parson hym a
hout and went and thide in the churche a great heape
and sayd vnto hym y^e have wonne the barrell of beere, this
sayd Hollegias y^e shal not, for we wol first mente
whether it be in the middes of the church or not. And
than they met it, and it lacked of the myddle more tha
vi. fote, and than was Hollegias the barrell of beere,
werof the priestes leman was angry, and sayd you wyll
kepe this ungracious holme barrell. W^{ch} pou^r at the
hill he wyll shame you. And than in the meane season
while Hollegias was parrye the clache, as after they
shoulde play the resurreccion of our lord, & for because
than the nyght was not leetned nor could not read, y^e
priest toke his leman and put her in the grate for an
angell, and this seing Hollegias toke to hym, ii. of
the simplest persons here in the towne that playe
the illumes, and the person played Chyffe, with a
baner in his hand, then tolde Hollegias to the sym-
ple persons, whiche surges y^e shal you. Whiche you
seke you may see the parson and a man with one eye.
Than it fortuneth that the tyme was come that they
must playe the angell as he them tolde they soughe
e than said they as Hollegias had tolde them & lerned
them afore. & than called they, for seke the priests
leman with one eye and than the priest in the grate
that he was moored. And when the priestes leman
herd that, she arose out of the grate and would haue
sayen with herself Hollegias how she be but
dissolved.

houshe kepte the folke there standing. And than departed
fompe folke so that some blasing him a comlaughing
sayd he is a thyrteth fol for he telleth us the truth
and so. **Howe** howe legias made himselfe a phetision.

and howe he begyled a doctout of the byshoppe
of Choppes of Grayborough.

The byshoppe of Grayborough, Earle of
Gloucester for the all his nobles loued howe legias,

for that he did many propre conceites, and therefore
the byshoppe gaue him meate and drinke, clothe,

and wages. The byshoppe had a myghte wyse doctout
with hym and he in no wyse myghte here nor se no fo

les. So upon a tyme as he sawe howe legias there, he
sayd to the byshoppe and the lordes men, you shoulde

lette come in lordes Courtes wyse men, and no foo

les for the wyse men, will be contentant with wyse
men and gette wyse reasons. And folles will be con

sistent with folles, and gette folish reasons. And
than answered they and sayde that reason is false,

for he that folishnes wyll not here nor see, he maye
well depart from them. There be also that thynke

themselves wylle fowre often tymes defiled of folles, it
belonges to myghts, lordes, and doctours, to haue in

their courtes folles for oftentimes they vnder a wal
heuy thoughtes and fantasies and iudicior. where

lordes be, there will be also folles. Than sayd howe
legias to the lordes, what argumēt that you had with

the doctout for my sake wylde he shoulde quide you
will helpe me then and they sayde all yes. Than de

parted he out of the court by the space of .iii. weekes,
and than came a guyne to Wichehampe, and than he
came to the churche where the doctout laye and
equyons

trouthe for the which he comes he sought for the
Whys into the larder, that there was come a dog
sitte and a master of his name that had helped many
people. The doctour knewe not howlegias, and than
he tooke hym by the arme and ledde hym into his lod
gyng where he spake to hym & sayde, and ye can helpe
me, I shall content you well for your labour. They
answered he I trust to helpe you, but first I must see
by you one nyght, that I may couer you wel that you
may sleepe, and by the ayre of the spete, I shall well
knowe what sickness it is that you haue. And than
priest weying that al had bene true: graunted to him
and thynge howlegias toke a strong purgacion
top to make him sleepe, but he said to the doctour: it
was a medice to make him to slepe, and the doctour
believed hym. And than went howlegias into a gar
den, and there fode a pot, the which howlegias toke
and shut in, and he took the pot & putt it betwene the
bed and the wal of the doctour, that the doctour knewe
it not, and the doctour went a fore to bed, & than came
howlegias to bed, and the priest turned him to the
wall where the pot fode, and then he felt such a synke
of the durt, that he drew the pot, so that he turned his
head a gayn toward howlegias, than let howlegias
a great synking fart, and than turned the doctour
a gayn toward the wall, and than smacked the durt in
the pot, & thus lasted the doctour the synke half the
nyght that him thought his heart did break and than
began the medicine to make so much that he belpy
all the bed, than said howlegias how do ye master dr
toure: me thinke you sleepe synke the deap sore the do
ctour thought in his nyght that he slept. I well
enough

enough but he myght not speke because of þe stinke.
Then said howleglas I wil go fetch you a candell, &
se how it is with you, and as he rose he let a gret fart
Then sayd the doctour, alas I dye. But he thanked
God that howleglas was gone: that he myght haue
some ayre. Then began the daye to appeare, & so de-
parted howleglas his way. And than loked the doc-
tour by the beddes syde: and ther founde the pot of
dirt that stanke so, and thanooke he it and cast it a-
way, and than knew he wel that he was mocked. And
within a whyle came the byshop & his nobles to viset
the doctour, and whan the came to his chamber, the
asked hym howe he fared and he answered and sayd
never worse. For I am all moste dead. Then he tolde
the byshop how þe maister of phisicke had serued hym
and than begā the byshop to laugh and all his lordes
And sayd this cometh to passe all after your wordes.
For ye sayd that fooles wold haue couersacion with
fooles: and geue folye reasons, and wise men wold
haue couersaciō with wyse mē: & geue wyse reasons.
But I se that many wyse: be made fooles of fooles, &
so be you: for if that ye wold haue suffred howleglas
and sayd nothyng: ye had not be mocked of hym. For
the phisiciō that was with you was howleglas, and
that we all knewe well enoughe. But in no wyse we
wold thew pot: for because ye were so wise þe shold
be begyled of a foole. For ther is no mā that is wyse,
but he must know fooles, for wher no fooles be, how
shold men know wyse folke: And than the doctour
held his peace and spake no more. and than neuer af-
ter but he complaiuned of fooles, but let them do
all that they wold after theyr owne mynde.

How Howleglas made a sicke childe shite that a sope
myght not shyte, and howe he gat great wop
thyp therof and prayse.

Men let alone, and take no hede of cunning and
þ dwel bi thē: but profer thē a litle or nought
for ther labour, nor be beloued: but rural persones, &
vacadūdes haue all their desyre. As it is don to How
leglas, that came into the lande of Hyldeshe, in a lod
ging wher the good man was not at home, but How
legias was welcom to the good wife of the house. In
the house there was a sicke chylde lying by the fyre.
And than Howleglas seing the chylde lye so: he asked
his hostise, what sicknes that the chylde had: Than an
swered the woman to Howleglas & sayde, if the chylde
might go to þ draught: he shold do well ynough. And
than aunswered Howleglas therto, know you no re
medy than aunswered the woman: Can ye helpe the
chylde: & ye can: I shall geue you that ye shall be plea
sed therewith. Thā answered Howleglas, that is but
a lytle thing to do, nor no cunning. For I wil take no
thyng therfore. And so departed the wife into the gar
den, and in the meane whyle: dyd Howleglas shyte a
grean turde, & than set he the shytting chayre ouer the
turde, and set the chylde thereon, as though þ chylde
had done it. Than came the woman out of the garden
& asked wo had done that. And thā answered Howle
glas I haue done it. ye sayd that þ chylde could not go
to the draught, therfore I haue set the chylde in the
chayre. Than toke the woman the chylde awaye, and
saue so much dirt vnderneath. Than said she to How
leglas, this is it that hath hindered the chylde so long
for this great cure ye must haue great thanke therof
Than

Then sayd Howleglas such a mastery can I do with
lesse cost. Then sayde the woman I praye you lerne
me that cunnyng and I will geue you thear for what
you wyll haue. Then sayd Howleglas. I must nedes
depart from hence, but whan I come a gayne I wyll
learne poss that science and learyng and then wente
he into the stable and sadled his horse and toke his le-
ue and so departed from thence. But he fought not
his holles that science: but so departed.

How Howleglas made hole al the sicke folke, that
were in the hospitall, where the spere of our lorde is

Upon a tyme Howleglas came to Northbo-
rough, and he set vpon the churche dores, &
wrote. *God hal, & euery place & all & peo-
ple in that towne myght knowe that he was a great
maister of whisicke: That al sicke he could make hol
And than the maister of the spytle house, where the
spere of our lord is: had many sicke folkes in his house
than went the maister of the hospytall to Howleglas
& asked hym, yf he could helpe sicke men, or lame me
and make them hole: & he woulde reward him after
his owne pleasure. Then answered howleglas to the
maister of the hospital, wyl ye geue me .xx. golde gyle-
dens, and I shal recouer and make the hole of all the
sicknes, & deases, and will haue no money tyll all the
sicke persons be deliuered out of the hospital. These
wordes pleased the maister of the hospitall verie wel.
And he gaue hym some money in his hande. Upon .v.
morrow after came howleglas to the hospital w. ii.
men with hym, & than he asked y sicke folke, on after
the other, what defaile they had, and whan he hadde
asked them all than he made the swere vpon a booke*

that thei should kepe his counsaill whatsoeuer he said
to them. They answered that they would, than saide
Howlegias to them, I haue vnderaken to make you
all hole whiche is impossible, but I must nedes brene
one of you all to pouder. And than muste I take the
pouder of him: & geue all þ other to drinke therof, wth
other medicines that I shall minister thereto. And he þ
is the last, whā I shal cal you out of the hospitall, and
he that can not go: halbe he that shalbe brend. For
on wednesday next cōming. than shall I come before
the maister of the hospitall, and than shall I call and
he that slepeth longest shall pay for al than prepared
euery one of þ sicke folke their crutches, & geue þ thy
wold eot be the lasse. And whā Howlegias was come
to the maisters of þ hospitall: thā called he the, & than
they ran out of the hospitall, & some of them had not
bene out of their bed in .x. yere before. than whan the
sicke folke were out of the hospital. than asked he his
mony, & than the maister gaue it him & than he depar
ted. And within .iii. daies after came again the poore
men to the hospital: & complained of ther sickness, &
than the maister of the hospital said to them, how cō
meth this to passe: I gaue þ maister of phisik a great
sūme of mony to make you hole. than answered the
poore folke, he hath deceyued you and vs bothe, for
four dayes past he came to euery one of vs, and sayd
to vs that he should come on wednesday next coming
and heale vs, but he sayd he must nedes first brene on
of vs, and sayd that should be he that whan he should
cal, should be the last out of hys bed, and the pouder of
hym should they drinke & be made hole therewith. than
knewe the maister of the hospitall that he was decey
ued and

ried and begyled, and than toke he the poore folke to
the hospitall and put euery one in their bedde as the
were before but he dyd all a gaynst his wyll.

¶ Now that a baker hyred Howleglas to
be his seruant.

Upon a time came Howleglas to a baker for
to dwell, and the baker had ned of a seruāt
and than he hyred Howleglas. In the next mornyng
after, must the baker bake: so the nyght before must
Howleglas sytt thei meale without a candell. Than
said he to his maister, ye must geue me a candell. Tha
nswered þ baker I neuer gatte a candell to boult w
but the did boult in the mone light. Than answered
Howleglas I am contente, than went his maister to
bed to slepe. iiii. houres, and in the mean whyle, let he
the bulking bag out of the window in the mone shine
and than began he to boult the flowre vpon the erth
i the garden. Than arose his maister and thought to
haue baken: and came to the boultynge house, and tha
he sawe that Howleglas, had boulted þ meale in thei
garden vpon the bare grounde. Than sayd the baker
to Howleglas, what the demyll doest thou thinke, the
mele cost no more but strawynge vpon the earth: than
answered Howleglas to his maister. I haue doone
as ye bad me: for it is boulted in þ mone shyne. Than
answered the baker. I hadde the that thou shouldest
boult it by the mooue shyne: than answered How
leglas, so I haue done, for it is sytted in the mone shy
ne, and without the mone shyne. And than sayd how
leglas. There is not much mele lost, but that we ma
take it vp a gayne. And tha answered the baker it is
to late now for to bake, for our dowe is not made.

L.iii.

¶ Than

Than answered Howleglas to his maister & sayde, I
shall helpe you wel your neighbour hath dowere by
made in the kneading trough, & I will go fetch that &
put yours in steede. Tha was the baker much angry
and bad hem to the galowes & fetch he was vnder it,
and than said Howleglas he would, & than he depar
ted to the galowes, & whan he came there he found no
thyng els but a few bones & those he took up & brought
home with hym. And than said to his maister, I haue
brought that that I haue found vnder the galowes
what wilt ye do with it? Tha was the baker more an
gry & sayd, I shall displayne on the, thou hast stolen a
way the kynges surrice. than wente oute to the mar
ket & Howleglas folow ed & than came the baker to the
burges of the town, & began to complaine. And than
came Howleglas & rode by the baker, & therewith was
the baker so angry that he wille not what to saye to
the burges and said agerly to Howleglas, what wilt
thou haue? than sayd Howleglas I must nedes se the
complaynt that ye make on me. than answered the ba
ker, go out of my sight thou vngacious knaue, than
answered Howleglas to the baker, if I were in thy
shoes, tha must I nedes passe through thy nose thy ill
whan I shyttest thy eyes. than departed the burges &
knewe wel that he mocked. And than shewed Howle
glas his arte to the baker, and asked hym if he coulde
bake such a lofe in his mouth. & than departed he &
left the baker standing in the market place.

How howleglas was put in wages with the foster
of an halfe, so, to wathe vpon a toure, to se whan
his enemies came: and than for to blowe an
horne to warte them therof.

Upon

Apon a time þe erle of Anholte hired for a tyme
wayther Howleglas, for he had many enemies
& for that cause he must haue many souldiers in wa-
ges that he must geue meate to. But Howleglas
was i the toppe of the foure, was not of the meriest,
for the was forget. upon a tyme cam his enemies, &
fetched a waye a great flocke of the earles beastes, &
that sawe Howleglas. but he helde his peace: & that
was spyed and shewed to the earle. And thā the erle
asked hym, why he dyd yeso spyll & blew not. Then
answered Howleglas, I dyd daunce for my meate.
Thā sayd the earle. wil ye not blowe enemies. Then
answered Howleglas I dare not, the fiede is so ful
of enemies. For if I should blowe: they wold come &
flee you at poure owne gate. And thā the earle was
cōtēt & departed And within a while after was How-
leglas agayne forgottē, And whan the earle was at
dynner and had gread dāstes before him: Howleglas
blewe enemies. And by & by the erle & al his souldiers
rose fro the table & dressed thē in barnes & ran to the
gate, but they founde no enemies, In the meane whyle
he toke howleglas as much meate as he wold haue
fro the earles table. Thā the souldiers and the earle
came in & called Howleglas to them, & the erle asked
hym why he blewe enemies & there were none: the
erle sayd it was a trayterous dede, & thā he put him
out of office. Thā must he nedes run with his footen
mē to fyghte with their enemies, thā saide he that
for thinketh me. I wold I were hēre but he could not
Upā a tyme came enemies thā wēt the souldiers out
vpon them, and Howleglas was last: and whan they
retourned agayne he was the fyrst in at the gate.

tt the

at the last the erle had knowlege and came to Howleglas, and asked what was the cause that he was the last out, and the first in. Than answered Howleglas to the erle. worshipfull lord if it please you, whā your souldiours made good there: I stode vpon y^e four fighting and therefore I am not so strong as your souldiers be, and that is cause that I am last oute: and the first in. And you wil geue me meate ynough as ye do y^e other, than shall I be the first. Than answered the erle, thynkest thou that I will kepe the so longe as I haue kept y^e, to do nothing but mocke ys in this manner, as ye haue done so oftene. Than gaue he Howleglas leue to departe, wherof he was very glad, for he loued no fighting: and so departed he.

How Howleglas whan the kinges foole of Casimier of Polseyn withe a great point of foolishnes.

The kyng of Casimier he had with him a certayn foole, whiche foole could playe vpon the scedle, wherfore the kyng loued hym much & set great price by hym. Also the kyng hadde oftentimes tell of Howleglas: but he neuer could se him. And on a time it fortuned that howleglas came in to the kinges palaice for to aske dwelling, wherof when that the kyng wist that Howleglas was come there to dwell: he was very glad therof, and toke him in, and made hym goodly chere. So it fortuned that the bigges foole and Howleglas could not agree, and that spied the kyng well, and thought in his mynde what shal I doo: and than he made the both to be brought before him in y^e hall and than he sayde to them. whiche of you two can y^e moste foolishnes. And one of you doo that the other will not do: I shall geue hym the clothyng, and xx. ducates

And when he came to the church, he was welcome to
no place that he came to, for he had been much made
of before all in his youth. Then he thought how he
might in what manner he might get money with little la-
boure. Then went he to the church, and got him a priestes
gowne, & dressed him like a scolare. Then went he in to
a certayne churchyard where he found a dead mans
head, and then he took the head up, & made it cleane.
And when it was cleane he bare it to a certayne gold-
smith, and bad him that he shoulde bande the head
with syluer bandes, & he said that he would content
him, & so he did. And when it was done he contēted y^e
goldsmith, & then departed he to a village nere then
by wher it was the dedicacion day. And then came he
to the parson of the church & saluted him, and then
he told him y^e he had a relik, & he prayd the curate y^e
he wold do so muche for him: y^e he wold shew it vnto
the parish, that they myght offer to it. And he said
to the person y^e he shold haue the one halfe of the offer-
ring. And then the parson moued the curate: & graunted
to him, for he was glad to get money. Then tolde he
to the people of his parish. This man that here stand-
eth hath brought a precious relike, he that offereth
thereto hath great pardon. He shall come into y^e pul-
pet and declare it vnto you. Then went Howleglas
into the pulpet, & then told he the people of the relik
that he had ther, & he said that the head spake to him
and that it bad him, that he shold build a church ouer
him, and that the money that the church shoulde be bil-
ded with, shoulde be wel gotten. And told the men and
the women shoulde come offer: then sayd Howleglas
to the women. Al those y^e haue made their husbandes

clerk shold be wounde up and come not to offer, for the
head had hym that I shold not receiue the offering, &
than he came down out of the pulpet, & whan he was
come down, than came the poore men & ther wyues &
offered to the head. And ther was not on woman but
she offered because that he had sayde so, and he gaue
them the blessing with the head, and there were some
that had no mony, and they offered there tynges, and
some of the offered I wyse or thysle, because I would
be sene, and thei that were gilti presed first. And thus
receyued he the offering both of the good & of I yll, so
that he had gotte a great som of mony by that sayde
practyse. And whan thei had all offered, and that ther
was no more that came: than he sayde to them. All ye
men and women that here hath come, and offered to
this head be honest and good and more ouer I charge
you on payne of cursyng, that there be not on of you
that I other slaunder or backbite, for if you had not
bene good & honest: I shoulde not haue receyued your
offerynge. And whan the poore men of they countrey
hearyng Howleglas speake in this maner, they bele-
ued hym. And whan the masse was done, than came I
parson to Howleglas and sayd to hym, that he shold
geue to hym halfe of the offeringe. And than deuided
Howleglas the offering, and gaue the parson a parte
therof, that the parson was well content therewith
And than departed Howleglas from the parson, and
than the women ther a bout were veri glad of How-
leglas & made much of him. So abode he longe with
them and spent none of his mony, in such maner coulde
he cloke and hyde his unhappynesse and fallenesse.

Howe

Howe howleglas came to the towne of Banberch
and how he did eate for mony.

Un a tyme came howleglas to Rozenbo-
rough to banberce, where he entred in to a
lodging, wher was a mery hostile, the had howleglas
often tymes welcome, for the sawe by his clothinge
he was a mery geit. And as dyner tyme came þ hostile
asked him if that he would go to dener. and the asked
him also if it pleased him to be at the twelue penie ta-
ble. Than answered howleglas and sayd, to his ho-
stice, I am but a poore man. I pray you for gods sake
to geue me my dyner. Than sayd the hostile, þ baker
and the butcher, wyll not be so payde. And therfore
must I haue mony, for there is none in my house, but
they eate and drinke all for mony. Than answered
howleglas, for mony do men eat and drinke in good
fayth so wyll I. Than answered the woman to him.
What table wyll you be at: for at þ lordes table thei
geue me no lesse than to sylinges, and at the mar-
chauntes table. xvi. pence, and at my household seruā-
tes geue me twelue pence. Than answered howle-
alas to his hostile. Sythe I must nedes eate and pay
mony, thā geue me þ best meate that you haue. And
than he set him down at the lordes table. And thā his
hostile brought to the table, the best meate & drinke þ
she had, and she had him make good cher, she sayd oft
much good do it port getel sir. And howleglas thāked
his hostile many times. He eat & drake & made hī wel
at ease. And he eat so muche of þ good meate þ he smet
againe. whan þ he had made hym well at ease, & eat
and drunken al that he would: than had he his hostile
too auoyde the table, for he sayde he muste departe

from thence. And right shortly at his commandment
the table was auoyded. And so he arose and rode by
the fyre, & whan he was tharowe warme he toke his
leue with his hostysse, & would haue departed. That
seyng the hostysse toke hym by the sleue, & bad him to
geue her. ii. shyllinges for his dyner. Than answered
he god thank you, for you haue remembred me, I must
haue two shyllinges of you. For you sayd to me, that
there came no maner of persones within your house,
but that the cat for mony. And whan you had tould
me that: I sat me downe & said, I would do the same.
And I ate so much that I swete again, and therefore
you geue mony. Than saide his hostysse, muste I
geue y mony to eat my meat & drinke my drink such
gestes I may haue gret plenty. Pay me mi mony short-
ly, for the bakers and brewers, will not be so answered.
Than answered Howleglas to his hostysse, geue me
my mony, for thynkest thou that I wylle ate so much
and labour my selfe so sore as I dyd, not to be payd
for mi labour: yet I had much leuer neuer to haue
sene y nor thy house, for I haue eaten so muche for
mony, that mi belly, is lyke to burst, would you that
I should haue such great labour & not to payd there-
fore: I haue other thynges to do, than to stande cha-
tig here with the: and therefore come of lightly & geue
me my mony, and let me be goe, for I haue right well
deserued it. Than sayd his hostysse to hym. Syr, you ha-
ue eaten my meate, and broken mi drinke, and bi my
fyre, you haue had your ease, and all at your owne de-
syre, wherfore I praye you to geue me mony. And he
answered ryght angerly. woulde I haue me to paye
mony, and I dyd eate therefore, thei whiche is to my
great

great harme: Thā she answered to Howleglas, if youe
sayng do you harme, I am not the cause thereof but
youe sayng is to my losse, not onely that I haue lost
more than that cometh to. And than she saide depart
thou fro my house and neuer after this I thou be so
bold ouer to enter within my doores. Than sayd How-
legas, will you on your conscience take any labour for
nothyng: well fare well. And than departed Howle-
glas, and he was glad that he had so leaped fro her, &
she was glad that she was so deliuered of hym.

¶ Howe Howleglas went to Rome to speke
with the Pope.

Than when Howleglas had longe occupied hys
fallenes: thā he remembered this old prouerbe.
I will to Rome any maners to amende: & home agate
my lyfe for to ende. And than departed he too Rome,
where he shewed parte of his ingratiuousnes, & whā
he came to Rome, he lodged with a wydow and they
wydowe did ofte beholde him in the face and because
he was a fayre yong man: she saide oft tymes, sir you
be ryght well come. Good syr she sayde from whence
be you: I am of Salton: and my coming hether is for
to speake with the Pope. Than answered she to How-
leglas good frende you may see him: but you shal not
speake with hym. For I I am borne in Rome, woulde
haue geue an. C. ducates to speake to hi, but I could
neuer speake to him. Than sayd Howleglas. Holysse
will you geue an. C. ducates: and I shall bring you to
to the speche of the pope: And she swore to him be her
faith she woulde, for other wise it woulde cost her more
ingyftes. Thā on a time shoulde the pope syng masse
his owne person, at saynt Ihon Lat erast. for euery

solwe inches he must sing masse there. And as þe pope
was at masse: than Hoblegias drew nere to the al-
ter. And whan the pope was at the holy sacramente:
than touned Hoblegias his back to the altar. And
that seing all the cardinales, whan masse was done
the came to the pope, and the tolde to his grace, that
there stode a sayre younge man, all the whyle that ye
were at masse, and harde it deuoutly till the tyme of
the leuacion. And whā that you listid by the chalyce
aboue your head: than touned he his back toward
the sacramente of the altar. Than sayde the pope, þ
is a thyng to be loked on, for it is a great doubte whe-
ther that mā beleue well or not. And therefore it is ne-
desfull for vs to sende for that man, & to examyn hym
what errour it was that he helde. the cardinales and
clerics, þe were the best. than the pope sende for Hob-
legias to his Jinner and þe messenger brought him to
the pope. and whan he came before the pope & the car-
dinales, they began straghtly to examyne hym and
they asked of hym, what was his belefe: than answered
Hoblegias to the pope. I beleue as a true christe
mā ought for to beleue. And I beleue in Jesu christe.
and I beleue in that, that our holi mother the church
doth teach me, and I beleue as my good hostie dothe
belette, and he named her before the pope, and al that
noble congregacion. And than sent þe pope a messenger
to the Jinner, where þe Hoblegias was lodged, & whan
he was there, he came to the hostie & had her that she
shold make her ready, for she must nedes go with him
to the pope. wherof she had great maruile, and made
her redy and so went with him to the pope. And whan
she was come before the pope, he asked her what her
belefe

And he answered to the pope. Reuerend
father, I beleue as a true christen woman should do.
For I beleue as the holy churche beleues, and also I
beleue in al that the holy churche bindes me to. Tha
said Howlegias the same beleue I. Than the pope as
ked him, why he turned his backe to the holy sacra
ment whan he did minister it. Than sayde Howle
glas to the pope. Reuerende father in god, I thought
in my mynde whan that you lft by the blessed sacra
ment, that I was not worthy it to beholde, nor there
on to loke, tyll the tyme that I was confessed, & made
cleane of all my synnes. And than was the pope with
that answere maruelously well contented and plea
sed, And after that the pope bad him that he shold co
fesse him of his synnes, and to make him cleane therof
and that sayd: he gaue his benediction to Howlegias
and his housle, & so they twaine departed. And shortly
after departed the pope with all his cardinales in
to the palayce, and so Howlegias was quyte therof.
And than sayd Howlegias to his housle I must haue
my, C. Ducates that I haue earned. And than the wo
man gaue him the. C. Ducates, whereof he was glad,
and he sayd to his selfe that he was y^e better for that
Journey to Rome.

How Howlegias deceived the Jewes with wite.

When Howlegias the great deceiver had bene
at Rome: than came he to the towne of Frañke
ford, where a warte or a grente market was kepte.
And as Howlegias went about the market: he spyed
a yonge man ges with muske of Alexander to sell,
that whiche he sold well solde and myche sette by.

Than

Then sayde he to himselfe, I will goe with
some marchaundise for to sell, as well as that yonge
ma doth. And he thought in his minde how he might
fynde some arte to get money without labour. And
thought he in his mynde every night what was best
to do, for the flene did bite hym, & he coulde not slepe.
And he would right gladly have taken them, but he
could not. And when that the daye began to spring he
arose and walked forth and as he walked, than spied
he by the way a fayre figg tree, the which bare goodly
fruyte. And then went he and gathered two or thre of
them, and than he sayde to himselfe this is good for
my marchaundise and brought them with hym into
frankforth in portyngale, to the place wher he was
lodged and he dressed them after his mind. And whan
he had dressed them, he put them in his arse and tem-
pered them with his durte, and let them lye thereby
hym, by the space of ii. or iii. dayes, that they should
not smelle to much of durte. And in a morning by ty-
mes he arose out of his bed, & wente to his hollyse &
hyred a litle table, & than he went into the market, &
bought two or thre silken clothes, and therin a house
he cruised these portyngale figges, that had lye so
longe in his arse: with the they silken clothes, lyke as it
had bene the must. Than took he his table and wente
into they market, and set vp his table. And whan it
was vp than shewed he the portyngale figges, that
he had made lyke as it had bene must. Than came ther
many marchantes of divers londes to hym, and they
asked hym what marchaundise he had to sell: and
he shode hel and gave none of them no answer, wher
of they marueyled, and so departed. And at they laste
there

And came to buying thereof the other bym to buy
the same bym to buy them to sell and then answer
ed them saying to them, can ye buy this in a precious
thing, for all those that do rate of it, or those that smell
to it, they shall see the trouble by and by. When went
the Jewes to counsaill what long be fitt to be sold. And
sayde the olde Jewes of them all. We thinke it is
best and most expedient for us to binde that marchan-
tyse, for than that we know when that our shellyngs
shall come, therefore I counsaile you to by it, for it
shalle be to us a great Jewell & comfort and content-
ly they were agreed al, for to by the marchandise of
Howlegias. And then the returned to right good hall
unto Howlegias. And when they were come they as-
ked the price of one of the prophetus that was wrap-
ped in the sylke, than answered Howlegias to þe
Jewes, Departe fro hence, and let my marchandise be
alone, for it is so costly for you to by: for one of them
shall cost you v. C. good gyldens, and ye will have it
than answered the Jewes to Howlegias and sayde.
The price is all to great for us: has said he. I tolde
you before and therefore if thou wilt not by it, thou
partest thou from hence. And then the Jewes hering
Howlegias spake so sharply to them, and made no
more count unto them: then they beleved him, & con-
sentedly they gave to him v. C. gold gyldens without
speaking of any more shellyngs, for he spake so angrily
that they were fayne to dispense hym. And when
they had bought it: they brought it to the principall
Jewes. And then caused him to aggregate all þe Jewes,
both olde and young when they were assembled then
was there one shellyng upon the scallow, that was cal-
led alypna.

led thynne. And he sayde that be the myghte of God
they had gotten a prophete and he said he that shold
hawe it in his mouth shold prophete the truth, and
than he sayd to the Jewes, By this prophete we
shall know when our messias shal come. And he com-
manded them to fast thre dayes. And than shold I
take it in his mouth, & prophete the truth, and
so he did. And as he had it in his mouth, on þe myghte
dayes, and an other yfanc that were the serva-
ntes of god they asked hym howe it savoured: and he
answered I am inspired with the holy ghoost, to pro-
phete the truth. There must be an other of gods ser-
vantes to hawe it in his mouth, and so they dyd, to whi-
che he had tald therof he sayde: I am inspired with the
holy ghoost. I shall tel you the trueth, we are begyled
for it is noo ther thyng but a turde; and they tald
and the turde laged in theyr teth, with the herte that
he had cut fro his herte, and than they knew well that
they were deceyved. And forthwith departed howle-
glas fro thence, and he went toward his owne coun-
tre, and made good chere with good felowes homi-
ward, as long as the money wold last.

¶ Now how he legio had gotten the patrons
of the herte, by his confession.

¶ A ffeind in that villag was a parson, that
had a fayre horse, with a proper hand mayden
which he loved one as the other. And it fortuned that
the duke of Brunsowke on a tyme sawe the horse, &
how he had seie the herte. His mynde rane so muche
on the horse, & he wold haves had hym. And than the
spite came the duke, and desired the horse of the
parson, & the parson sayd hym that.

¶ And than

¶ And than

¶ And than

the duke sayd because he might not haue the horse, &
he durst not take by force: for he was one of the youn-
gest of Bionefwike. And when Howleglas hard of
the duke desired the horse: then said Howleglas to the
duke, & you will rewarde me; I shall get you the par-
sons horse. The same morn the duke to Howleglas, I
shal geue the my gowne of red chambrlet, the on sleefe
set with pearles. Then said Howleglas to the duke,
I shal bring him; I haue no doubt he shal departe How-
leglas, and he came to the priore, where he was well
knowen, & the hoste sayd he was welcome. And How-
leglas rested there thre dayes, and after that he made
him selfe sicke. Then was he brought to bed sick that
the parson of the towne & his mayde were so heuy, &
they knew not how to do nor him to helpe. And then begg
he to waite sicke & sicke; and then said the parson to
Howleglas, I counsaill you to be shewen, and to take
your rightes of the holle church, as it belongeth to a
true christen man. And when Howleglas hard the par-
sons speke to him. Then sayde Howleglas to the parson
I desire you hartefully to be confessed, for I knowe
my selfe guilty, and a great sinner. Then the parson ex-
amined him vnder confessione right busely, he had
him to remember that he had a soule for to kepe, and
he preached and taught to hym the booke of confession
And then shewed Howleglas to hym the parte of hys
mynde. And at the laste when he spake no more: then
asked the parson of Howleglas if that he had no more
synnes in his mynde that were great and abhomin-
ble, that he was ashamed to shewe. Then answered
Howleglas to the parson thus: I haue none more: and
that I dare not confesse of to you, and therefore

you must fetch me another priest: for if I shold tye
it on you, than woulde ye be angrye out of pacifick
Than answered the parson to Howleglas and saide
the mai is far from this place and verye soule. Spere
her if it fortuned you in the meane while to speche
were the both in great peryle & daunger. And therfore
tell me that faine, & I shal absolve the therof, be it ne
uer so great & abhominable. And if I wer angrye with
you, yet you knowe I must kepe your counsaill. And
if it be any thinge that longeth to me, I for geue you
freely, and therfore tell it me. This longeth he more than
ever he did, this saide Howleglas to the priest. I knowe
well that you wyl be angrye, but I sele me so sore sick
that I wene that I shal dye, and therfore I shal tye
it to you quickly. And than he saide, I haue lye by
your mayde your seruante. Than asked he how ofte
haue ye lye by her. And than sayde Howleglas, no
more than fise times. And than the priest thought in
his mind, therfore the deuill breake thy necke, and he
gaue hym absolucio shortly, and forth with he depa
ted fro Howleglas to home to his house. And when he
came home, he called his mayde to him, and asked her
if she had lye by hym. And the mayde answered to
hym and sayde: that yd I neuer. Than answered the
priest, ahou tyed. For vnder confession he hath tolde
me that he hath lye by the, more than .v. times. And
than the mayde sayde aye, and the priest yes. And this
the priest toke a knife in his hand and he bet his maide
therewith, that she was both blacke and blew. And
Howleglas laye in his bedde and laughed, and saide to
himselfe. Nowe wenth the priest to hym bys thone a
gayne of the mayde, And in the morning waked How
leglas

legas hole, and arose and sayde it was wel attended
with him. And he asked his hostesse & the priest, what he
had spend in his sickness. And than rekened the priest
he knewe not what, for he was so angry in his mynde
and the maid also, for she was beate for his sake. And
than sayd Howlegias. Tell me what is my duty to
paye. And the priest answered not a word. And than
said Howlegias to him. Remember you not mayster
parson that you haue disclosed my confession? I shal
tyme to tyme tell to the byshop and I shal complaine
on you that you disclosed my confession that I confes-
sed me unto you. Whan þe priest hard Howlegias speke
after that manner than forgot he his anger, and fel on
his knees before hym, for he thought that he was in
more danger than ever he was before. And than he
sayd to Howlegias, if that you will kepe your peace
and make no more wordes herof, I shal geue to you
twenty golde gylens, and I shal do as much for you
as yves in me for to be done. Than made Howlegias
hym selfe very angry with the parson, and said unto
hym. If that you would geue me an C. gold gylens,
that I should not thewe: I will not take them for my
gowne. Than the priest preyed the mayde with we-
ping teares, that she would go to Howlegias & to ex-
treat hym, that he should not go to shewe the byshop,
and byd hym as he what he wyl, and he shall haue it.
Than went the mayde to Howlegias, and she shewed
him what the priest saide. And than came Howlegias
to the priest and sayd. Wyl you geue to me your hope
that you loue so wel, and than shal I kepe your coun-
saile. And I tel you plainly, I will haue no other thing
than that only. And than the priest was more sorrye
than he was before. And than he sayd. I will geue you
what you will. And than he geue him the money.

than etier he was. And he sayde to Howleglas, that he
would geue to him as much money as he would desire
and not to aske his horse. This said Howleglas. I will
haue none other thing but only the horse. And thus the
parson had leue to lose his horse; than he would haue
the bishop to knowe. Than gaue he the horse to How-
leglas with the ill will. And than when Howleglas had
the horse, than he departed fro the parson, and was
very glad. And than he came toward the duke. And
when he was come there, the duke spied Howleglas
and the parsons horse: than was he very glad. And thus
brought Howleglas the horse to him, wherof he was
very glad. And than gaue he the gowne of red cham-
blet to Howleglas, and he thanked hym greatly for
that gift and laughed, and the priest was very angry
for the losse of his horse; and oftentimes he bete his
mayden therfore, for he sayd she was the cause therof.
And he bete his mayd so oft, that at the last she ran
from him, and so he lost both his horse and the mayde.
And the priest loyered on Howleglas euer after, that
loued him so well before.

¶ How Howleglas was byred of a blacke Smyth.
A Bastard in Kosliche dwelleth a smyth & he
red Howleglas for his man, and when he was
byred: he put him to & bellows to blowe. And when
he blew not well, than toke the smyth the bellows in
his hande and blew: and sayd fellowe doo thus. Were
the bellows bright and than he gaue & bellows to
Howleglas agayne: than wente the smyth forth with
into the garden, and than tooke Howleglas the be-
lowes on his necke, and folowed after his master with
the into the garden where his master was a shytinge.
And than sayde Howleglas to his master, wher shall

gladde this delouer. I may go fetch the other unto
you. Than answered his maister and sayd, good man
what meanest thou, art thou not wel in thy mynde? God
take the beloues and beth them where thou hast the
he spoke saye to Protiegias, and coughte he was
to displease him. For euerie night by the space of thre
dayes long, he called up euerie night his seruantes at
midnighte for to worke, wherof they marvelled what
he ment, for they were very angry therewith and one
sayd to the other. I thinke our maister is not well in
his mynde, that he cyles euerie night at midnighte to
worke, he was not wont so for to doo in tymes past.
And as they were speaking of this ctyng together,
that said Protiegias to his seruantes asked the if that
they would be wel contented with him and if he asked
of his maister what was the cause that he should call
them up euerie night at midnighte to worke. And that
answered the seruantes, we will not be displeased
therewith, but right gladd therof, and well contented
therewith, & than sayd Protiegias to the seruantes
I will go to him. And forth with spake Protiegias
to his maister and sayd to him, wherfore do ye wake
us euerie night at midnighte oute of our slepe. Than
answered the maister and sayd. What is my name
that now men the first eyght dayes suffer I not the toy
slepe, but wake the night. Than held Protiegias his
peace, and all his seruises, and sayde noo more wordes,
and the next night the maister called his men at
midnighte to worke. And Protiegias that tooke the
bed and layd himself on his backe, and when the yowles
were, the maister beset his backe, that the spere should
be the backe of Protiegias, & than sayd his maister
will not

And not that my backe shold be hurt. And when the smith
layed with his bed on his backe. And when the smith
was in the bed on his backe, he said to his wife thou
do with the bed. And it into the place where thou had
it. When she answered howe legges to his matter, he saide
not angry. For this is my matter. For when
that I have slept the se halfe of the nyght, then be a
I the bed on my backe the other halfe of the nyght.
When began the smith to waxe angry and sayde, So
beet the bed when thou had it and thou go thou about
out of my house. When answered howe legges and
sayde matter with a good will. And then he bare the
bed vp into the place where it was before. When when
he had borne the bed in his place then took he a ladre
and climed vp to the house top, & ther he made a gret
hole in the house toward the north away the thatching
therof, and he pulled through and went out the house
top and so went his way from thence, and neuer came
there after. And as the smith was here working, the
hath a great noyse about in the chamber and a gret
knocking. When asked he his fellowes, who had
about in the chamber that made such a noyse. When
answered them to their master and sayd we know
not who is a house. When said the smith, thou wilt
galeke and thanke the smith his way he and went
up into the roofer, and when he was above, he lookt
at the rooffe of the chamber, and pulled downe, and all
fo cast all aboute, then was he angry and wist not
what to do for he wist not who had done it. And at
the last he looked up and saw on the ladre, that he had
put ther that it was the smiths wife. When came he
downe and let her a stroke, and he was the house
after

after him to haue slayne hym. Than the seruantes
seyng the maister taking the sworde they helde him,
and asked him what he woulde do: Than answered
he & tolde how Howleglas had done. Than answered
the seruantes to the maister. Let him go for he hath
done as you bad hym, for you bad hym goo vpon the
house, and so he hath done as ye maye see. And so thei
synth was content. And thā he caused his house to be
newe thatched agayne.

How e Howleglas was hyred of a thomaker.

A Don a tyme serued Howleglas a thomaker,
and vpo a tyme the thomaker had busynes
i þ towe, & thā gaue he to Howleglas a hy-
de of lether, & bad him þ he shold cut all the hyde. And
Howleglas asked him what facion he shoulde cut the.
And the maister said litle and great, as the swineherd
wyd dylue his beastes. And than sayd Howleglas with
a good will. And than departed the cordiner: and than
toke Howleglas the hyde, and began to cut the lether
for oxen and shepes fete, and shoyne. Than came
his maister home, and came to see what his seruauit
had cut out and to loke whether he had cut the lether
as he bad hym. And whan that he had see, that he had
cut out his lether all in beastes clawes, than was he
angry and sayde to Howleglas: whetfore haste thou
marred all my lether, and cut it for beastes fete. Thā
answered he to him and sayd. I haue done as ye bad
me. The maister sayde thou leest, for I bad the that
thou shoulde not marre my lether. Than answered
Howleglas to his maister and sayde, I haue doone as
ye bad me, ye bad we that I shoulde cut both greet and
small, as the swineherd dylueth out his beastes, and

than haue I done. Then answered the coryneth to
Howleglas & sayde. I ment not that: I mente that
ye should haue cut out of þe hyde bothe great shoene
and lytle shoene. Then answered Howleglas to his
maister. If that ye had tolde me it before: I woulde
haue done it with a good wyll. And I praye you mas-
ter forgette me this: I shall nowe do it with a good
wyll and than byd his maister forgyue hym, for that
tyme: and than promysed Howleglas to his maister,
that he woulde do that, that he had hym. Then the next
daye after cut Howleglas maister himselfe, þe shoene
out both lytle and great, & gaue them to hym, and he
bad hym that he should sowe the great with þe small:
and Howleglas sayde with a good wyll, and than tooke
Howleglas the shoene, and put the lytle shoene in
to the great shoene, and sowed the both together, as
his maister bad hym, and that spyed his maister: and
sayde. ye be a good seruant for ye do al thyng that I
byd you. Then answered Howleglas and saide. Thei
that do as the be byd: the be worthy to haue thanke.
Then saide the maister. ye do after my saying and not
after my meaning. For I meane that first ye shoulde
haue sowd a lytle payre, and after a great payre. And
the maister was hasty, and toke him other lether and
sayde, Cut me all this lether vpon one lasse. And the
maister thoughte no more of the fallenes of Howle-
glas, and so he departed to his chamber, and when he
was come home, then remembred he what he had sayd
to Howleglas. Then went he as fast as he could to-
warde they shop where as Howleglas was, and as he
came there, Howleglas had cut all the lether, vpon þe
lytle lasse, all for the left sole. Then when his maister

saide

saue all his lether cut for the left foote, than asked he
Howlegias if there belonged not to the left foote a
ryght foote, and he was very angry with hym. Then
sayde Howlegias to his maister. If that he had tolde
to me before: I wold haue cut them, but if it please
you, I shall cut as many right shoene vnto them. The
maister sayde. I had the cutte the one with the other
and than answered Howlegias. ye had me cutte all
vpon one laste. Then answered the shoemaker. If
that I should kepe you long: you woulde make me so
poore that I muste nedes goe a beggynge. But nowe
gette me money for my lether & thou haste marred me,
and departe thou fro hence. Then answered How-
legias to the shoemaker. The hyde of a but wyll make
two hydres. And with those wordes he arose and sayde
In this house haue I bene, but I wyll not come here
agayne, and so departed he fro thence.

¶ How Howlegias solde turdys for fat.

AS Howlegias had destroyed much lether
of the shoemaker, wherof the shoemaker
was very sorow, and that heying Howlegias, returned
agayne to the towne, and came to his maister, & tolde
hym that he had a last of calowe, and he tolde his mas-
ter that he shoulde haue it good chepe, for to restore
hym parte of the harme, that he had doone to him be-
fore in his lether. And than the shoemaker sayde yf
it be good: I pray you let me haue it before another.
And than saide Howlegias with a good wyll, And thā
departed they, and than went Howlegias to the gong-
fermyers. & made hym fill twelue barrells with turdes
as he leuon, and than take he a lytle calowe, and
it in the barrells some paches thyeke, as though it

G, ii.

had

had ben altogether grece, and closed it so close that it
could not synke. for it was in the wynter whan there
was a great frost, that the durte was fast frozen to þ
barrell, and the other syre barrells he filled with other,
talowe or fat more thynker than the other syre were,
for they were the example of his marchaundyse. And
whan that he had dressed all the barrells he sende for
his maister the shoemaker, and he asked hym, if þ he
would come to see the marchaundyse. And he sayd he
would. Than within a whyle came the shoemaker to
howleglas, and when he was come there, howleglas
made the heades of the best barrells, to be broken bp.
whan the cordener sawe the barrells they lyked hym
very wel. And than howleglas asked him how the ba
rells pleased hym and he answered very well. And tha
asked he the pryce. And than answered howleglas ye
shall gette me no more than fowre and twenty gylde
rs. in hand, & the other twelue at þ yeres end. And tha
was the shoemaker content, and thought no deceyte
and gawe to him. xii, gyldeus in hande. And howleglas
receyued the mony, and than departed he. And þ cor
dyner was glad of the bargayne, and thought that þ
foresayde harme that he had doe hym, should be resto
red. And than the hyred a seruant to melt the talow
and he brought one barrell by the syre, and whan they
durt began so waie hote it began to smell. Than said
the one to the other. If it were some of vs hath belhittē,
their breeches. And than came the maister & had them
make cleane theyr shoene, for on of you hath trode in
a tource, and than they loked about, but the founde
nothyng. And than shoulde the haue put one of the
barrells in the cauldre, than sawe they well that it
was the

was the barrill that stank, for it was full of folles
And than they left their work, and went for to seeke
Howleglas, but he was gone: and so the shoemaker
must suffer the laste losse with the first.

How Howleglas served a taylor.

On a tyme served Howleglas a taylor, & he sayd
let asked him, if he coude some woll a clothe,
that no man might se the seame. And thus said Howle-
glas yes. And than went Howleglas & sowed under
a barrill. Thus said his maister what dost thou now
this is a maruelous sowing. Than answered Howle-
glas, I sow so close that no man can see as you had
me nor I mi selfe se not. than answered his maister
good seruant I ment not so: I had the sow that eue-
ry man might see And than the thyrde night the mas-
ter had labored so sore, that he must needs slepe. Thus
calle he to Howleglas, a husbandmans gowne, and
he bad him take a wolfe & make it up. And than sayd
Howleglas I shall do it. Than went he to bed. Than
cut Howleglas the husbandmans gowne, and made
therof a woulfe with the head and feete. And whan
that he had sowed it together, than set he it upon the
table by the stauces. than in the mornynge arose his
maister, and came down, and whā he saw the woulfe
standynge upon the table he was a wayde: and asked
hym what he had done. And he saide mayster: I haue
made a woulfe as you bad me. than sayd the maister.
I ment that you shoulde haue made up a husles gowne
for a husbandmans gowne is called here a woulfe.
than answered Howleglas. If that I had knowen
that before I woulde haue doo so, for I had leter ha-
ue made a gowne than a woulfe. And at the last was

they maister contente. And within some dayes af-
ter, watched they mayster so muche that he muste
needes goo to sleepe. And there was a cote readye
made, but it locked the sleues. Then the maister toke
the cote, and the sleues and gaue them to howleglas
and he bad hym that he should call on the sleues, and
he sayd he would. Then went his maister to bed, and
than toke howleglas the cote & hanged it on a balke
and set on euery syde a candle, and stode by a cast the
sleues at the cote all thei night long. And then arose þe
tailor and that spied howleglas, and he call the sleues
more faster than euer he did before at the cote. And þe
assayed wel the taylor, & sayd what folishe touches he
chose þe you do ther. And then answered howleglas he
wre angry. This is no folishe touche for I haue stonde
all the nyght assinge the sleues at the cote; and they
will not abyde theron, and nowe I fele it is but holle la-
bour. Then sayd the ymayster to howleglas. It is my
faulte for I wend þe would haue vnderstand me bet-
ter, for I met you should haue sowed on the sleues on
the cote. Then said howleglas to his maister. The deuyll
take you, for if ye had said so to me before, I might ha-
ue sowed on the sleues, & haue gon to sleepe. But now
mayster go you & sowe al þe day long, & I will go slepe.
And then answered the tailor, & haue I hired you to
sleepe? And thus began they to chide. And as the week
thus chidinge, the taylor had hym pay for his candles;
that he had burned that night. And then howleglas
spoke neuer a worde more but tooke all his clothes &
went his way and came no more there.

¶ How howleglas through his little discreete, did
at last repleue a pyned man & a pyned childe.
¶ On a

On a tyme came howleglas to Lubeke, where
is very straight justice, & the while that how-
leglas was there a bidding: he herd tell of a wyne dra-
wer that was in a lordes seller, that was very proud
and presumptuous. And it was saide that there was
no man that could deceiue hi, nor passe him in wisd-
om and there was none of all the lordes that loved him.
Than thought howleglas in his mynde, howe he
myght deceiue hy more than vpon a tyme toke howle-
glas two pottes, one of water, and the other empty,
and he hid the empty pot that no man sawe it & he came
to the seller & gaue the wyne drauer the empty pot, &
had him fill the pot with wyne, & so he dyd. And whan
it was full he broughte it vp to howleglas, and than
he looked aside & in the meane while howleglas set
p pot of water in y place of wine & hid the pot of wyne.
And than asked he y wyne drauer what he shuld pay
And the drauer sayd. x. milten. than sayde howleglas
the wine is to here for me, I haue but. viii. milten than
was the drauer angry, & sayde wyll ye sette an other
pyece on the wyne than the lordes haue set: tha sayd
howleglas I haue no more monye, & I shall not haue
it so, than take your wyne agayne for I knewe it not
before. than was the wyne drauer very angry, and
he toke the pot with the water, and bare it downe to
the seller: and poured out the water into the vessels
he mynde it had bene the wine, and came & gaue how-
leglas the pot, and sayd. shake ye me full wyne, and
ye haue no mony to paye for it: ye were ye be a fooler.
And than sayde howleglas ye be begyled of a fooler,
and with that woorde he wente his waye with the
pottes. And than the drauer mistrukyng howleglas
for they

for the two:des that he sayde, toke a sergeant and o-
ther toke hym, and fetched hym, and than they found
that he had two pottes vnder the mactell. Than toke
the Howleglas and perched hym for a thefe, & brought
hym to the prison. And than sayd some, & he had deser-
ued to be hanged and some saide that it was done for
the nonse to deceiue the wine drawer, & that was but
well done for he shoulde haue se there to before, for he
sayde daily that no man shoulde begyle hym: but they
that loued not Howleglas sayde that he was a thefe,
& that he shoulde be hanged. And tha was Howleglas
brought before the Judge, and the gaue sentece, & hy
shold be hanged. And on the morowe was he brought
vnto the gallowes, for to be hanged, for they that lo-
ued hym not, would sayne haue sene Justice done on
hym. And there were gathered many of the towne to
see Howleglas suffer death. But they Lordes of Lub-
hike were sory for hym, for some wende that he could
do mychecraft, that he thereby myght be deliuered.
And as he was led towarde the galowes, he lay all styl
as though he had ben dead. And whan he came vnder
the gallowes, than desired he to speke with the lordes
And whan the lordes were, com he fell vpon his knees
and he prayed them that the wold graunt him aboue
and the lordes sayde. Thou woldest desyre thy pardon.
Than sayd Howleglas. That wold I not aske byle
nor money, nor it shall not cost you one peny. Than all
the lordes of Lubek went to the other side of the gal-
lowes, and there they layde theyre heades together, &
there they rebetted his lordes againe, and they agreed
to graunt hym his petition. That done they came to
hym and they bad him aske what he wold, saue those
wordes

Howleglas spoken of before to be except. And howleglas
thanked the lordes and sayde. I praye you that euerp
one of you geue me your handes therof. And they al
together gaue him their handes, so that all the lordes
had graunted him both with woide and hand. Than
sayd Howleglas to the lordes. Because I know you
be faythfull of your wordes, I shall shewe to you my
boone. And than he said this is my boone. That euerp
lorde of Lubeke do come & kille my arse, wthon that I
haue haged on the galowes by the space of thre daies
long, with his mouth in the morning fastinge and the
horow maister firste, and all the lordes after in ordre.
Than answered the lordes to Howleglas and sayd,
that his desire was an vnmanerly boone for to be as-
ked. And than sayde Howleglas to they lordes of Lu-
beke I knowe the counsaill of Lubeke, so sure of their
promyse that they wil holde that that they haue pro-
mised me both with hande and mouthe. Than went
the lordes agayne to counsaile. than sayde they one
to the other this thyng that he asketh of vs it is vn-
lawfully asked, for it were a greate shame for vs all,
that we that be the grettest lordes of the tolon, should
cbe and kille his arse: better it were for to geue hym
his pardon, and let hym goo hys waye, for it ys but a
small faute that he hath done. than agreed all they
lordes and sayde that it was best for to do. than the
lordes called the sergeantes, and they had them too
vnbrynde Howleglas and to let hym goe at large, for
all they had graunted hym his pardon. And than they
vnlased Howleglas. And whan Howleglas was at
large, he thanked the Lordes. And than departed he
from Lubeke, and neuer came there after.

How Howlegias became a maker of spectacles,
howe he could fynde no worke in no lande
where he came.

On a tyme the senatours of Rome, had grete dis-
cord among them selfe, which of all the lordes
shoulde be Emperoure. And at the last was y^e earle of
Supplembrogh kyng of Romaines and Emperour
of Rome, but there were many other that looked for it.
So whan he was made, he lay. vi. weekes long before
the towne of Frankforde, abyding ther for all other,
lordes to tormeēt, where was a great company assem-
bled. And this hering Howlegias, he thoughte in hys
minde to go thither. & so he did. And there he thoughte
to get some gyfte. And it was no more but the Empe-
rours syluer harnes. And as Howlegias passed by
Frankforde he met with the bysshop of Tact and be-
cause y^e he was clothed auenture lyke, he asked hym,
what he was: than answered Howlegias. I am a spec-
tacle maker come out of Triaband, and I can fynde no
worke. Than sayde the bysshop, me thinke your craft
shoulde be better daylye, for the people y^e longer they
lyue thei lesse syghte they haue therfore your craft
shoulde be the better. And than said Howlegias to y^e
bysshop, my lord you say truth but there is one thinge
that destroyed our craft: and if you wil take no disple-
sure, I shall shewe it to you. And than y^e bysshop bad,
hym saye what he woulde. And than sayde he, this de-
stroyeth our craft, that suche great lordes as you be,
Kyniges, Dukes, erles, lordes bysshoppes, knyghtes, la-
dyes, and gouernours of l^odes and towne, al these
looke through thei syngers, and not with spectacles.
They were wont to study in the olde tyme the ryghte
and than

and than behoued the me many Spectacles. And also
the priestes, were wote to lude and reade their ser-
ture but now they vse no Spectacles at al and by this
maner is our craft destroyed and nought let by. And
by heades of the countrey that poore men of the coun-
tries learne all to loke thowoe their handes that they
be almoste as cuntyng, as the heades of the countrey.
Than the byshop vnderstode the text but not the glose
and he spake to Howleglas and sayde. come with me
to frankeforde, and I shall geue vnto the my harness
or clothyng, and than was Howleglas veriglad and
he wente with the byshop to frankeforde, where the
Emperour was chosen: and whan thei trumpe was
done that the byshop gaue hi that that he promysed
hym, and than was he glad and he wente with the by-
shop, and so he returned agayne to Salzen.

Howe Howleglas was hyred of a marchaunt.

to be his cooke

A Heiderfeld dwelled a marchaunt, that on a
tyme went walkyng without the town, and
as he walked: he founde Howleglas lyinge on a grene
hyll. Than asked the marchaunt Howleglas wha the
was: Howleglas answered vnder his couered falsnes
I am a cooke, and without a maister, Than said the
marchaunt: yf you wyl be a good seruaunte, I wyl
hyre you, and geue vnto you wages, I haue a cooke,
at home: but my wyfe complayneth on hym alwaye.
Than promysed Howleglas the marchaunte to bee
true to hym. Than asked the marchaunte his name,
than answered howleglas, my name is Bartholo-
meus. Than said the marchaunt, that name is al to
longe: your name shall be Dole. than sayde howle-
glas, I holde me contented therewith. Than sayde

the marchaunt. Dole my man, now let us go gether
some herbes for poung chekhins, for to morow I must
haue gesses to dyner: and than went the hounse to his
place together. And whan the marchauntes wyfe
sawe howleglas she asked her husbande: what shall
we do with this ma, wene you that oure bread mould-
dys? Than sayde the marchaunt. Be contente wyfe,
this shal be your man for he is a coke. Than called he
his man and sayd. Dole take a basket and folowe me
to the fleshe shambles, and so he dyd. And whan they
were there the marchaunt bought meat for to roste,
and whan he came home, he called his man and sayde
Dole to morow lay the meate to the fyre, and rost it
coldly & ye burne it not: and howleglas sayd he wold,
and than he arose in the mornynge, and broughte the
meate by the fyre, and he toke the meat that he shold
roste and put it on the spytte, & bare it down into the
seller, and he layde it betwene two barrelles of bere,
that it shold be colde ynough, and burne not. And be-
cause the marchaunt shold haue gesses, he came home,
besore to see whether that his meate was well rosted
or not. And whan he came home, he called Dole, and
asked him, if that they meate was ready: and howle-
glas answered, ye maister alsaue the roastinge. Where
haste thou done it: benethe in the seller, betwene two
barrelles, for in all the house could I not fynd so colde,
a place to laie it in for burning. The marchaunt said
is it not rosted: and howleglas sayde naye, for I dyd
as ye bad me, I layd it cold ynough for I knewe not
the tyme that you woulde haue had it rosted: and as
they were talking together came in the gesses, and the
marchaunt tolde to his gesses howe that howleglas
had sayd

had serued him, and the laughter therat, but his wife
was not content therewith and right gladly she wold
haue bene reue of hym, & very angry she was because
of that touche. Than sayd the merchaunt to his wife
Be contented at this tyme, for to morow I muste to
hallaet and he shall wayte on me: and whan I shall
come home agayne, than shall I pite hym awaye fro
hence: and than went the merchaunt with his gesses
to bynet and made good there and at nyght called the
marchaunt his man and sayde. Dole make the wagen
ready, for to morow I am in thought, I and my priest
to take our Journey to hallaet, and grease it that it
may go tyme: and than went Howleglas and greased
the wagen within and without, and in the mornynge
went the marchant and the priest to the wagen, and
rode their waye: and by the waye, the priest layde his
hande on the rayles of they carte, and they made his
handes all greasy: and than he looked better, and both
the marchant & the priest were all a rayed with grese.
Than they called Howleglas, and the had him se, and
very angrye they were with him, & in the mean tyme
came there a man of the countrey with a lod of straw
and than they broughte parte of his straw, & dressed
their wagen therewith for felyng of their clothes and
than they wente vnto the wagen agayn than said the
marchaunt all angerly. Go driue it vnder þ galowes
and as he was a litle further he tpyed a galowes, and
thither droue he the wagen vnder the galowes: and
whan it was vnder the galowes, he made the wagen
to stande still, & he vntye d thei horse. Than sayde the
marchaunt what wyll you nowe do: than sayde How
leglas: tary you here all nyght, for you had me to driue

you vnder the galowes. And when they saw that the
knight vnder the galowes, he pryncesse laughed, but the
marchant was very angry, and had hym to drewe forth
ryght, and neuer to stand still. Than said Howleglas,
he would, than pulled he out a pynt that was in þe wa-
gen, and he helde it fast to the horse, and drewe the horse
forth and he left them vnder the galowes. Than the
marchant seing that he lept out of the wagen, & the
pryncesse with hym, and they ran after him, & at the laste
they overtok him, and than the marchant drewe his
swoorde, & would haue smitten him but the pryncesse
would not suffer him, and than made he fast the horse agayne
and so ended the iourney to an ende. When the mar-
chant was come home, his wyfe asked how he faced
and how he liked his man he answered, not of the
best. Than he called Howleglas, and he had hym tary
there that night, and in the mornynge, to departe fro
thence, for he sayde he was but a begger, and a decei-
uer, wher so euer he went. Than sayd Howleglas good
maister that shall I do. And than arose Howleglas
early in the morning, and as he was vp: the marchant
sayde. Eate and drynke your belly full, and ridde the
house of you, that I fynde you not here when that I
come agayne, for I must to church, & when I return
if I fynde you here, stand to that, that shall be fall. And
Howleglas heide his peace, and spake neuer a worde
to him, and than the marchant went to church. Than
he began for to ryd all the household stuffe and bare it
into the streete, than came word vnto his maister to
the church, that all his household stuffe stode in the
streete. Than came the marchant home, & saw that
it was Howleglas that had borne out all his stuffe,
and he asked

he asked his man why he did so and Howleglas sayde
I was as you had me: for ye had me that I should rob
your house, and so I have of all your stuffe, that ye
have. Than sayd the marchant to Howleglas be-
parte fro hence, and come no more here. I geve they
warning for here is no body that chaunges the for thy
laboure. And than departed Howleglas his waye: and
so was the marchant faine to crye in his next neygh-
bour that Howleglas had bene out.

How Howleglas was desired to dyner.

In Luncborough dwelled a flute maker that
knewe bacabundes by sight. And on a time it
fortuned him to spy Howleglas, to whom he
said. To morowe I desire you to dine with me. Than
Howleglas thanked him, & he sayd he wold. And than
departed the flutemaker, & on the morow at none, Howle-
glas went to the pype makers house, & when he was
ther, the doores were shut. And he taried till none was
past, & than he knewe wel he was greatly deceived, &
so he returned home again. And on the morninge as he
walked in the market, he spied the pype maker, & than
went he to him, & thanked hym for his dyner, & he sayd
in haire byd a bodi to dinner, & he shut all your doore. And
the pype maker said. I had you come to dyner. Than
sayd Howleglas your doores were shut. Than laughed
the pype maker & sayd. Go to my house before, and I
shal come after to dynner for ye shall fynde both cosse
and soden. And than departed Howleglas to the pype
makers house, & there he founde all true as the pype
maker had tolde him. And then said he to the pype ma-
kers wife, that she shold go as fast as she could to her
husbande, for he sayde that he had a greate surgion,

geuen

gette him and he said that he woulde turne for lighte
that she came againe. The woman sayd good Noble
man, here the houlde tell that I come agayne, and let
no body in. Than departed the woman to her maister
towards her husbande as fast as she coult and met
with him in the waye. And when he saw her he asked
her whether she went to fall. And she said to help him.
For she sayd that Howleglas had told her that ye had
a thugion givenen you, and he sayd I ye had that we
shold see a helpe you for it was so greet that you were
not able to bere it. Than was the man angry, and sayd
knowe ye not well that Howleglas ys such a moc-
ker and a deceiver: than went he home with his wife.
And when he came home, he knocked at the doore, and How-
leglas sayd let be your knocking, for the houlde bathe
charged me, that I shoulde let no gell in tyll dyner bee
done. Than went the houlde to his neyghbours and ta-
rped there tyll Howleglas had dyner, and when How-
leglas had dyner, than he opened the doore, and than
the pyper maker came with all his folke. And when he
was within, he sayd to Howleglas that it was no ho-
nesh for a gell to shyp his houlde out of the doores. And
in this maner he scrued the houlde, and his houlde.

How Howleglas was a pece of clothe of a
man of the countrey.

Howleglas wold ever lare wel, and make good
chere but he woulde not worke. Than on a tye
came he to Wylent, to a goobly company of men of
the countrey. And as he walked he espyed one man alone
with a grene cloth on his arme, than ymagyned he in
his mynde, how that he might get the cloth. So he came
to him, and he asked him what he was dwelling. And
than

than the husband tolde him: and than departed How-
leglas fro him, and continently he met with a hottish
priest. And another knave and he sayde to them, I de-
sire you to helpe me, and I shall geue you for your la-
bour, and they sayd they wold. Than said Howleglas
whan I call you to recorde to know what colour y^e-
der cloth is: ye shall say blewe. I will go before, & come
after. than went he to the husbandman, and he asked
him how he solde his blewe cloth: than sayde the hus-
band man that it was greene, & not blewe. I holde .xx.
gilders against this cloth, that it is blewe: than saide
the husbandman I holde you. It is done sayde Howle-
glas, and the first man that comes hether, shall be the
Judge thereto. Agreed sayd the husbandman, & than
made Howleglas a squire to the m^{re}, that he had hired
and they came. than sayde the husband man, we two
strive what colour this cloth is: I pray you breke out
stiffe. than the felow said it is fayre blew cloth, than
said the husband man ye be to false for me to medle with
for it is made becomen you two to deceyve me. than
sayd Howleglas cause that ye saye we be agreed, let
him go here cometh a priest, wil ye be contented what
he sayeth: and the man of the countre sayde yes. Then
came the priest by, than sayd Howleglas I praye you
to tel us, what colour this cloth is: the priest sayd ye
se well ynough what ned ye you to aske me. the hus-
band man sayd I know the colour of the cloth wel ynough
but these twome say it is an other colour and there-
fore we stryve: than sayde the priest what haue I to
do with our stryving: than sayde the husbandman I
praye you to departe us of our stryving. than sayde
the priest. I can se no other, but that is a fayre blewe.

And thus sayd the husbandman, and ye were not a priest
in sayth ye did we, for ye be the falsen men. But sayd
ye be a priest. I will beleue you. And then gaue he
Dowleglas his cloke, and made his maye. Then did
Dowleglas with his xi. felowes clothe them with the
husbandmans cloke againste the wynter. But the
good poore man prayd to god, many a tyme and ofte
that the deuell might take them all three for the poore
man was then housefull they doted of by his after
that great lorde.

Howe Dowleglas gaue xi. gildens to his poore
men for chrystes loue.

On a tyme came Dowleglas to a town where
he did many vertuous thinges. On a tyme rode
Dowleglas without the towne, and as he rode he met
with xi. blinde men to whom he said, whether wil ye
go. The blinde men heying that he was cu he se back
they put of their capper, for they wende that he had
bene a great gentleman, and saide, we haue bene at a
doale of a rycheman, that died yester day in the towne.
Then sayd Dowleglas, I take grete thought for you
how you shall do this wynter, for me think you shall
feele to death, before the wynter be done. And thus he
sayde holde here is, xi. gildens and retorne agayne all
you to the place where that I was lodged, and he nar
med his host, & he had them vntill good there til wi
ter were done. And than they thanked hym, for they
thought that he had geue them mony but he did not.
And than departed they to the place, whether he set
them, & the thought some of the company had the
mony. And whā they came to the tyme, the said to
the hoste by the way as they went, they met with

a good man & gaue them .xx. gyldeus for gods sake, and
he had vs come hitther, and make good cheet therfore
for he said & he had bene lodged here, & for his sake we
shold haue good cheet: when the hoste herde that they
had money, he toke th. iiii. & made the good cheet. And
when that their .xx. gyldeus were spent, than said the
hoste to them: Some will ye taken good brethren, for
now the .xx. gyldeus be spent. The bynde men sayd we
be contented to pay you, & than spake on of the blinde
men & sayd. He that hath twenty gyldeus pay our hoste.
And than said the one to the other. I haue not the .xx.
gyldeus. Nor I haue not the twenty gyldeus. And
than some late and clawed their head, & some clawed
their arute. And than they knew that they were decey-
ned. Than thought the hoste in his mynde what shal
I do with them: Shall I let them go that they spend
me no more money: Nay not so. Than sayd he the blinde
men in the stable, and brought to them hay & strawe.
And when that Howleglas thought that all the money
was spent: than came he tyding in to the same Inn,
where the blinde men were, and he had chaunged bys
clothyng that they shold not knowe hym, and so en-
tered into the Inn where the blinde men were and be-
led his horse into the stable wher the pore men were.
And he had set up his horse: he came to his hoste, and
asked his hoste wherfore that he had kept the blinde
men in the stable, so longe tyme in: And he asked of what
harme they had done to hym: Than sayde the hoste. I
woulde that they were together in the water so that
I had my colles & robe me, and than he tolde hym all
the matter. And than sayde Howleglas. And you
had a horse woulde you lette them go. And the

holle sayde yes with a good wyll. Than sayde Howle-
glas I wyll go see, if I can fynde any bo:owe for the.
Than went he to the curate of the churche and sayde
Master parson I haue my hofte, & this night was I takē
with the scnde I desyre you for to helpe hym. The cu-
rate saide with a good wyll, but you must tary two or
thre daies; for it maye not be done in haste: well sayde
Howleglas that is well saide but I will go fetch the his
wyfe that she may here what you say. And the priest said
I shall tel to her the same that I told to you without
fayle. And than went Howleglas home to his hofte, &
he tolde hym that he had founde a bo:owe, and that it
was the parson of the churche, and let your wyfe go
with me & she shal here him speke the same that he hath
sayde to me, and than was his hofte glad and he sende
his wyfe with Howleglas, to the curate. And whā the
wyfe came to the curate: Howleglas said to him, mas-
ter parson here is the wyfe of the man, that I spake
of to you, now tell her the same that you haue said to
me. And the curate sayd with a good wil. than said he
to the woman, tary a daye or two: and I shall helpe
your husbande well. And than was the woman glad, &
returned home agayne with the Howleglas, and whā
she came home: she tolde her husband what the curate
sayd, wherof the host was glad, and he went vnto the
stable and let the bynde men lose and they went their
way. And than Howleglas rekned with his hofte, and
so departed from thence, and whā the thyrde day came
than went the woman to the priest, and she asked him
twente gildens that the bynde man had spende. The
curate asked her, hath your husbande that ye told to
me, and the woman said no. Than said the curate, that
is the

is the false deuill that wolde haue the mony. The false
 the what false deuill menest thou. Tell me nill mony
 for my colles: than said the curate to the woman. It
 was tolde me that your husbande was taken with a
 false deuill bringe hym hether, and I shall helpe hym
 therof by the grace of god: than said the woman to
 priestliche beggers fynde I may. Now you should
 pay me for my colles: you bring to me a bawchening
 and you say my husband is taken with the deuill, and
 that you shall knowe shortly. And than she ran to her
 husbande and tolde hym how the priest said to her and
 whan the hollie hard those wordes: he was angry, and
 toke the spit with the roff that lay at the fyre, and ran
 to the priestes chambre. And whan they curate spied
 hym he was a frayde, & called the neighbours to help
 him, and he made a signe of the holy crosse before him
 and he cryed for help to take that man that was so be
 set with the deuill, than said the hollie, thou priest pay
 me my mony, and the priest gatte hym no answer.
 Than would the hollie haue run thorow him with the
 hote spit, but the neighbours went betwene them
 departed them, and they helde the hollie still with grete
 payne from mayster person. But as long as the hollie
 lyued he asked his mony of the priest, for the colles of
 the blynde men, but the priest answered to him that
 he ought hym nought and nought he would pay him,
 but said and you be taken with a deuill, I shall helpe
 you therof. But neuer after loued on the other.

And now of howe the obligeus feared his hostess of nash
 with a dead houlfe.

In a little while on yme holper that was
 very spyteful & mocking, and he playd great

by his boldnesse. Upon a tyme it befell in the winter
season when there had bene a greatesnowe. Howle-
glas came riding with the other three marchauntes for
Sallan to yctelien. & it was very late in they came
there. & whā they were comen they entred into a þ house
that the man kept. Then sayde their hoste angrily
wher have you ben so late. it is no tyme now to take
your tyme. Then they answered. Be ye not angrye,
for we have bene hounded with a woulfe in the snow
we could not scape till now. Then the hoste mocked
them because they were hunting of on woulf, &
said. if there came x woulfes to me in a field. I wold
hawe slayne the curricorne. & mocked þ marchauntes
till they went to bed. And howleglas late by the fyre, &
herde al so gether. Then should they go to bed. And it
fortuned that Howleglas & the marchauntes should
lye in one chamber. And whā they were in the chamber
together: the foke counsaill to gether how the myght
flon their hoste of his mocking. Then sayde Howle-
glas our hoste is full of mockyng let me alone I shall
pay hym well enough, that he shall not mocke vs no
more. Then promysed they marchauntes to howle-
glas to pay all his costes, and geve hym more monye
for his labour. Then sayde Howleglas to you. Your
tray, and busynesse of your marchaundise, and whā
ye have it, come a gayne and lodge at this Inn: & ye
shal fynde me here. & then they shal make our host that
he shal mocke no more. And the three marchauntes
in the morning and called the hoste, & payed hym for
their costes, and Howleglas also. Then they tooke
their horses & departed from thence. And whā they
were passe a litle, he cryed to the marchauntes take

hede that the woulfe byte you not in mocheage. The
thanked the hofte because he gaue them warning
before. And as they rode howleglas found a woman
that was frozen to death, and that he took up, and
put in a bagge, and layde before hym, and than the
retourne agayne to yffelliden, in that yme wher
the wroldged before, and he hope y woulde to clore
that woman in his thred, and when the night was
come that they sat all at supper, the the hofte
began to laugh at them, & he clyoned again the hat
dunce, & agast the woulfe. Than said the host to rufu
med at that tyme, you laide y you wold be. a. woulfes
but sit y wold y you kplone. And than said y hofte
that should y do a ston, and thus they liden y the
went to bedde. And howleglas holde his beate, till
that he and the marchantes bett aboue all together
in the chambre. And than said howleglas to y mar
chantes frendes. Let me now beghn to looke
wake you a lytle whyle. And than went the hofte, all
his folke were a slepe, than wete he per yelp into the
chambre, & he fetched the ded woulfe that was afore
frozen, & dressed him with lickenes, & put two chyloren
shoene in his mouth, and made him stand as though
he had been a liue. And than set he y woulfe standing
in the bak, and he raue agast into the chambre to y
marchantes, and when he was a bove, he y thate
chamntes called the hofte, and the hofte asked the
what they would haue. Than answered y to him,
that they would haue some drinke, for y had to get
thysle that the must needs drinke. Let your drinke
or man drinke be some, and we will paye for it to
morrow. Than wared the hofte, angrye and in de
as in II

This

This is the shaltons maner, for to drinke both daye
and nyght, And than he called his mayde, and bad her
that she should geue the merchaunt a drinke. And tha
the mayde rose, and as she went to lyght a candle: she
law the woulfe with ii. shoen in his mouth. Tha she
was afrayd and ran to the gardyn, for she thought,
that he had eaten both the chyldren, than called the a
gayne. Than called the hoste his mā, and bad hym a
lyfe and bere the shaltons wyne. Than arose he and
lyghted a candle, for he wold that the mayde had slept
well. Than looked he asyde and sawe the woulfe stande
he was a scapd, and he thought that the woulfe had
eaten the mayde, and let fall thei candle and ran into þ
seller. Than called Howleglas and the marchautes
the thirde time, and prayed that he himself wold bring
them some drinke for the sake there came no bodye,
or els geue them a candle, and they wold drinke it the
selfe. Than arose the hoste hymselfe, for he wend that
his man and his mayde were fallen a slepe agayn, and
than lyghted he a candle, and when that he had done,
he looked asyde and spied the woulfe: and he was so a
frayde, that he fel vnto the ground, and than arose he
and cryed to the marchautes, and he prayed them for
to come helpe him, for there was a woulfe, that had ea
ten both his man and his mayde. And this hadde thei
wyrd in the garden, and the man in the seller, & come
to help their maister, and the marchautes also. And
Howleglas laughed at this hardy man, that woulde
haue slayne ten woulfes, and he was made afrayde of
one deade woulfe. And when the hoste sawe þ it was
done in mockage: than was he ashamed, and he wylde
not what for to say. And than left he his bolshing, and
Jellyng,

delivered, and went to be hanged. And on the morrow
it was known through the town, whereof the people
was for a wonder. And then in the morning acole the
merchants and paid their tolls, and Holmlegas
also, and rode them away. And then never after pray
for the holle his manhood, and on a day as he was
in the Holmlegas seen a hound and gave them and
advised that they for his sake to be hanged.

On a time as Holmlegas was in a tavern
there when the host was not at home, that one
of the host's, the host's wife, had a black hound, which
she loved very well, and as she had nothing to do, she
took the hound on her lap, and played with him.
Holmlegas sat by the fire, drinking a pot of beer,
and the host's wife brought the hound to drink here
in a dish, and as Holmlegas was drinking coffee
here, the hound drunken on him and licked his cup
on Holmlegas, and that day the host's wife saw the
hound's some drink in his bowl, for that is the mean
way, and Holmlegas said with a good will, and then
gave the hound often a drink, and he gave him
also part of a drink that was on the table, that the
hound was as full as he might in a glass, and he
dared to drink, stretching him by the fire, and the
in a while Holmlegas had eaten enough, then al-
most the host's wife of the host's wife and the lady's
wife, then he has host's wife had a good, that
had eaten her meat, and drinketh her drink, and
spoke to her, and he said, the host's wife. Then
the host's wife thought him full, and thought it not
better to give. When she had him gone from here,
she thought that she was here, but he was the same as a

pledge. Howleglas said I am content therewith to pay
my parte, and the other must pay his parte: And then
went the hostesse into her chamber for to do her business.
And then toke Howleglas the hostesse under his gowne
and went vnto the stable, & steepe of his skyn. And then
came he agayne to his hostesse that sat by the fyre, & he
had the houndes skyn under his gowne: and then cal
Howleglas for a reckenyng, when she had reckened: he
gaue her half thereof. Then asked she him who shoulde
geue to her that other halfe: Then sayde Howleglas
thou seest here is my parte, ye had an other geue that
went awaie and payde nothing, and heate & drinke,
as well as I dyd, lette hym pay the other halfe of the
monei. Then sayde the hostesse, what geue was that: and
what pledge had he to geue: Then sayde Howleglas,
the best roose that he had on. Then drew he out the
dogges skyn, and sayde to his hostesse here is the best
roose that the geue hath. And when she saw her dogges
skyn: then spake she very angrily, and cursedly wher
fore haue ye steepe my hounde: Then sayde Howleglas
for none your bawning and your cursing in this ma
ner for it is your fault, for ye had to me that I shoulde
geue to your hounde meate and drinke and I told to
you that the geue had no monei, & ye said that ye would
not reuill hym, but that ye would haue a pledge of mo
ney to paye for his roose: so haue I broughte to you
the best roose that he hath for a pledge. Then was the
hostesse more wroth, & sayde Go out of my house forth
with, and neuer come here more within my dores. Then
sayde Howleglas. Whan I go out of your dores I maye
but I shall come out of your dores. Then took he his
sack and steepe his hounde, & layde on him and went: & he
parted

parted from thence, he sayde to his hoste. Be ye well
your pledge, & ye may haue your money. And withina
while I shal come vnto you vnbibde. And if I drinke
not of your drinke: than neede I not to paye nothing.
And than departed he fro thence, and rode his waye

How howleglas serued the same hoste
an other tyme, and howe he laye.

When a whyle after came howleglas to Staf-
forde, in the same tyme where he had bene lode-
ged before: and he had done other clothes on, because
that his hoste should not know him. And when he
was come into the tyme, he spyed a whyle lye theire by
and than he alighted & came & layde hym thereon, and
had hym his hoste good welcome. And he asked her, if she
harde any newes of howleglas. And she sayde nay,
what should I here of him: I can not suffer him to be
named. howleglas saide: what harme hath he done to
you, that ye may not here speke of him: he is a knaue,
in dede, I neuer herde tell yet & he came in any place,
but as he departed he did some greuousde touche. Than
said the hoste that is truthe. For it is but. viii. daies
agone that (for the great chere that I made to hym)
like a treitoure he slayed my hounde. And he gaue me
thei skyn for my meate and drynke. Than sayde how-
leglas that was a knaue he touche. And the woman
saide therefore shall he come to euill ende. Than saide
howleglas Is this all his rewarde. It is not three
houres agone sithen I sawe hym lye vpon a whyle.
Than said the hoste, if I had knowen that I should
haue bette him with a staffe, that I should haue bro-
ken some of his rybbes, for that he hath done to me.

And than arose Howleglas and sayde, let be your anger, for whan I spake to you he laye vpon the whele And nowe adewe I come not here agayne.

How Howleglas set his hostyle vpon the hote allhes with her bare arse.

AS Howleglas was come fro Rome, he came to an Inne where his hoste was not at home And whan he was within, he asked his hostyle if that she knewe not Howleglas, and the hostyle sayde nay: but I heresay that he is a false deceyuer and begger than sayde Howleglas wherfore saye ye so ye knowe him not tha said the hostyle that is truth but I haue herd speke much of his unhappynesse than sayd Howleglas: good womā he hath done to you netter no harme, wherfore slaunder ye him for the wordes of other people, the hostyle sayd: I saye no other of hym, than the people do. For I haue hearde him be spoken of, of many of my gesses, that haue lodged here. Than held Howleglas his peace, & spake no more til in the morning, and than spred he abroad the hote allhes on the harthe, and than toke he the hostyle out of her sleve, & set her thereon on her bare arse, & so was hys hostyle well brenned, than sayde he to her. Nowe may ye say boldly, that ye haue sene the false deceyuer and begger Howleglas: than cryed þ hostyle for help & lowred vpon hym Than went he out of her dores and sayde to her. Should not me correcte a reproue slaunderer and backbiter, that saye it of men, and netter sawe them, nor neuer had done harme to them. yes it is a charytable thyng to do. And than tooke he hys horse and departed fro thence.

How Howleglas secured a holader w a rolled apple.

Upon

Upon a time came Howleglas to Andwatpe
to an Inne, where was many holaders me-
rye. And he brought with hym .ii. egges whiche he ro-
sted for to eat, for he was sycke & coulde eat no fleshe.
And this seying a holander sayde. ye Thomme of the
countrey, wyl not your hollyse mete serue you but y-
e must bring meat with you wene ye that ye should
haue no meat here: and with those wordes, he toke þ
egges and supped them vp, and whā he hadde done.
he gaue too Howleglas the shelles, and sayd to hym:
holde here is thei bore, the relikes be gone, and than
laughed all the gesses at that touch, and Howleglas
also, and in the euenyng fetched Howleglas a fayre
apple and cut out all the core therof, and put therf a
strong purgacion, and rosted the apple in the fire and
than tooke howleglas the apple and cut it in pieces,
vpon his trenchour, & drawed therof poudre of gyno-
ger and set it vpon the table and wēt from the table
as though he would haue gon and fetched more. And
as sone as howleglas had tourned his backe, the ho-
lander tooke the apple and ate it in a gret haste. And
by and by he fell to parbrakyng, and caste vp all that
was within hym, and he was very sycke therof, that
the holle and all the gesses wend that he should haue
oyed of the apple. And than sayde howleglas to they
gesses: be not a frayde of hym for it is a lytle purga-
cion, that I haue geuen hym, he was to hasty to eate
the apple so soe, I shold haue watched hym therof. for
the rosted apple coulde not suffice þere egges in hys
mathe, but that they must nedes come out agayn: &
than the gesses made good chere and laughed. And
whā the purgacion had wrought al that it woulde

that the holander was amended, he sayde to howleglas.
Hoste and eate whatsoeuer ye wyll, for I wyll
neuer eate with you more,

¶ Howe howleglas made a woman that solde earthen
then pottes, to smyte them all in pieces.

¶ On a tyme toke howleglas his iourney to
Bremen, to the byshop, & loued him wel. For
at al tymes he did some man touche, wher at he made
the byshop to laughe. Than on a tyme as the byshop
and howleglas were a walkyng the byshop despyed
of him, & he would do some meri jest, but howleglas
went talkyng to hym selfe as though he had sayd his
paternoster, and answered not the byshop. But at
the last he saide to hym, I praye the to se some newes.
And he saide he wold. But he prayed the byshop to tary
a whyle, And he gaue him silence. And in the meane
whyle went howleglas to a woman & had the earthen
pottes to sell in market, the which pottes he bought
on a condicon, that whan he made a signe to her: that
she shold smite al the pottes in pieces. And she graunted
to hym. And than he payed her & returned to the by-
shop. And whan he was come, the byshop asked hym
wher he had bene. And howleglas sayde I was at
church, he said my lord go wyth me vnto the market.
And so he did. And whan they were there howleglas
said to the byshop Se you the woman with the earthen
pottes? I shall stande here still by you, & speke neuer a
worde: & yet shal I make her to smite her pottes all in
pieces. Than said the byshop I holde the .xxx. gildens,
that thou shalt not do it. And howleglas dyd holde,
the .xxx. gildens with the byshop. And than went they
into the towne house, & there they taryed. And than
cryed he,

cryede, and called the woman, & at the laste made he
the sygne to her that was made betwene them. And
than tooke she a flasse, and smyt vpon the pottes so
long till that she had broken them euery chone, so that
the byshop and all they that were in the market place
did laugh therat. And as the byshop was come home
than called he Howlegias a syde vnto him, and sayde.
Tell me shortly what thyng ye dyd to the woman, &
ye made her take a flasse, and smyte all thei pottes to
peces, and than shal I geue vnto you the .xxx. gildens.
Than said Howlegias to the byshop. My lord, I dyd
it not with force, nor with craft, but I had payd þ
woman before for her pottes, & we were both agreed.
And than laughed the byshop therat, and gaue vnto
Howlegias .xxx. gildens, and he made hym to swere
vpon a booke, that he shoulde not shewe no body þ thinge &
he sayd he woulde geue hym a far ore. Than sayd How
legias, that thing shal I do with a good wyll, & speke
neuer a woorde. And than departed Howlegias fro
thence, and he let the byshop do what he woulde. And
than went the byshop, that what he shoulde make a
sygne to her, that shoulde she smyte the earthen pottes
all in peeces, and this was the cunnyng that than
Howlegias dyd. Than were all thei nobles agha
stened and angry in theire mynde wyth the byshop, but
they durst not speake one woorde but claimed theyre
heades, whan that they sawe they had taken before,
their fare that they had gotten to the byshop for that
foolish bette. But after they comforted them selfe
agayne, and sayde. He is oure Lorde and mayster,
and yf that he had taken thei den for nothinge, we
woulde haue gotten them to hym, and Howlegias
had for

had for his parte one of thei fat oxen, wherof he was
glad. And the other did so: the gift amounted to xi. fat
oxen: and then went every man home, & fetred a fat
oxe and broughte it vnto the byshop: and when that
they were all come in, they stode talking with the by-
shop: and then came Howlegias riding by them, and
he sawe all the oxen stande there: then he sayd vnto the
byshop this garnes is half mine, then said he to How-
legias, wil you not holde that thing that we haue pro-
mised me, and then sayd Howlegias yea, for another
fat oxe: then gaue the byshop vnto Howlegias a fat
oxe and he bad him that he shoulde departe and so he
dwyd and lefte the byshop with all his lordes talkinge:
then called the byshop all the nobles together, & when
that they were come he sayde to them. Nowe shall I
shewe vnto you all this greatesumming of the break-
ing of the pottes openly: then saide he to them, this
is it. Howlegias had bene before with that woman &
solde the earthen pottes in the market. & he had payd
her for all the pottes, and he bad to her then when he
shold make a signe to her, then shold she smite the ear-
then pottes all in peces, and thys was the cummyng
that Howlegias did. Then were the nobles ashamed
and angry in theyr mynde with the byshop, but they
durst not speke one worde, but claumed their heades.
When the sawe their fat oxen before their face, that
they had geuen to the byshop for that falsch dede: but
after they comforted them selfe agayn and said: he is
our lord and maister, and if that he had asked thei oxen
for nought, we woulde haue geuen them to hym. And
Howlegias hadde for his parte one of the fat oxen,
wherof he was glad.

Howe

How howleglas brake the flayres that thei mon-
kes shoulde come down on to materyns, and howe
they fell downe into the yarde.

Howleglas as he waxed old and feeble: and had
bene in many coutries: than bega he to take
a litle repentaunce on him, and thought to go to be a
religious persone. Than toke he his way to Merien-
ball. And when he came ther he went into the abbay
to the abbot, and whā he came to him, he desired of
y^e abot that he might be a brooder in the place, and to
haue a place, and he promysed the abbot y^e he would
leue in the abbay all y^e money that he had. Than sayd
the abbot to him, & talked with him, for he was a me-
ry iester, that he shoulde haue a place, but he must haue
an office there with for to doo some labour for y^e se-
well, that all my brethren do that thyng that I com-
maunde them, and take y^e office that is geuen vnto
them, and be content therewith. Than sayd Howleglas
to y^e abbot, what so euer it please you to bid me do, I
shall do it with a good wyll. Than said the abbot the
labour is not gret that I shall geue vnto you: for y^e
shall be porter, so that y^e may haue conuersaciō with
the people dayly, and no other thing, than for to open
the gate, and for to shut it agayne. Than sayd Howle-
glas to the abbot. God thanke you my lord, that y^e
haue ordeyned for me a poore old man, so light an of-
fice, and therefore shal I do al that y^e bid me, and leue
all that y^e forbyd me. than sayde the abbot to him,
take here is the keye, y^e must not let in euery body,
nor scarce let in the ill, or the iiii. for ther be so many
vncabundes and land rymers. For if that y^e shoulde
let them all in that comes, the would eat & drinke so

much, that at the yeres ende the wold bring þ place
to a lowe ebbe. Than sayd Howleglas to the abbote
That shall I do with a good will. And than kepte he
the gate and whan that the seruantes and munkes
shoulde haue comein thā woulde he let in no more, but
the.iii. or the.iiii. And than they complayned to þ ab-
bot of Howleglas, & told hym that Howleglas was
a deceiver, and a begyer of folke, for he woulde not let
them in, that belonged vnto the place. Than called þ
abbot Howleglas to him and he asked him why that
he dyd not let in the seruantes of þ place. And How-
leglas answered, I haue done as ye bade me, for ye
had me that I shoulde let in but the third or þ fourth
and no more, and so I dyd, and therefore haue I not
broke your commaundement. Than said the abbot
ye haue doe lyke a falle knaue, & therefore shall I put
þ out of thy office, for ye wil not leue your false tou-
ches. And than gaue he that office to an other mūke.
And than said he to howleglas, this shall be your of-
fice, you shalte euery night how many mūkes come
to matyns, and ye myste one: ye shall out of þ abbay.
Than sayd Howleglas to the abbot. My lord þ were
I loth for to do, for to go out of the abbay, well I will
do after your commaundement, but the abbot gaue
to hym that office, because that he shoulde haue bi out
of the abbay, and so for to be trayd of hym. And Howle-
glas thought in his mynde, not for to tary long. And
than went Howleglas & pulled awaye. ii. or. iii. fepes
of the hayres, that the mūkes shoulde come down on
to matyns. And at mydnight came the priour by the
that was a good olde man, and was wonte to be the
first. And whan he thought to haue gone down he let
and brake

and brake his leg. And thus he cryed piteously, so that
the other munkes herd him, and came running hastes-
lye for to see what that he ayled and lacked & than fel
they eche after other downe the staires. Than in thei
mornyng complayned the munkes to the abbot, and
shewed hym howe that Howleglas had serued them.
Than was the abbot more angri, and said to Howle-
glas, what haue ye done: Howleglas sayd as ye bad
me, for ye bad me: I should tel þe munkes whan they
came to matins, and so I haue done, looke here is the
fayle. Than said the abbot go out of the abbai for ye
haue told them like a false knaue. And than departed
Howleglas fro that abbay and went to Dollen.

¶ How Howleglas bought creame of the womon of
the countrey, that brought it for to sel to Maryandra.

Within a whyle after that he would enter into þe
abbay of Maryandra to be a nunke, he went
a walkyng on the market dape to Bremen, wher he
sawe many women standing there to sell creame. And
than went Howleglas to the house where he was lod-
ged, and borrowed a tub of his hostife, and went again
in to þe market. And whan he was there: he set downe
his tub and came to a woman of the countrei and he
asked thei pryce of her creame. And whan they ware
both agreed: he made her for to put þe creame into his
tub and than wēt he to an other, and agreed with her
also: made her to put her creame into his tub, and so
went he fro the one to the other, tyll that he had made
all the women that had ther creame: to put it into his
tub. And whan he had soo done: than asked thei poore
women thei money of Howleglas, for they woulde
departe home. Than sayde Howleglas to the women

ye must do so much for me, as to trust me these eight
dayes. for I have no money at this tyme. And ware
the women of the countrey angry, & the ran to theyr
tub for to take every one of them their cream again
for they would not trust him. And as they wold have
taken their creme agayn, than began they to fall to-
gether by the eares, & sayde. Thou takest more than
thou should have. And the other rode all weppng, &
sayde to them. Shall I loose my creamer. And other
twayn were tumbling by the here, in the myddes of
the camel. And thus she pulled and haled on & other
that at the last the tub fel downe, & arayed the very
foule, so that they were all dysfigured & will not of
whome they should be avenged of. And then arose they
and asked where is this false knave, & hath bought
our mylke, and hath dysceined vs so, for had we hym
here amonge vs, we shoulde chrisen hym here in the
creame, that is in the cannell, & paine him therewith
as wel as we be, for he is a false begger and dyscey-
ner. But he was gone fro thence for he cast before &
such a thyng shoulde folowe. And whan the burgeys
of the town and many other folke of the town sawe
that the camels ran with cream. Than went they
to the market place for to se. And whā they ware there
they asked how the creme was spilt, and then it was
tolde them. And whan that they knewe it than they re-
turned home laughing, and prated greatly of falsi-
nes and fustelle of Howlegias.

How Howlegias came to a scole to make verses
with hym to that dis of reason. And howe
that Howlegias began as after
shall folowe.

How

Howlegias.

Ites with septer, a king coronate
Furins in affliction, and takech no regard
By terrible fightyng, he is oue pyymate.
And god of battell, and person ryght tremoure.
Of warries the tutor, the loche, and the warde.
His power his might, who can them respit
Not all this worlde, if that him selfe lyth,

The scholet.

Not all this worlde, who tolde the so.
Where is that wrytten, ryght sayne word I see.
Ye came lyke a soole, and so shall ye go.
By one person only, deceyued ye may be.
And by all economy, I tell it vnto the.
If that wyll not helpe, some wyse shall I fynde.
By craft, or cunnyng, spars for to blinde.

Howlegias.

Venus a god of loue most decorate
The floure of women, and lady most pure
Louers to concoide, the doct aye aggregate
With partyte loue, as marble to dure
The knot of loue, she knittes on them sure
With seemly amitt, and neuer to distorde
By dedes, thought, cogitation, nor wynde.

The scholet.

Not to discorde, yet by I menten
Knowe, nor here tell, of loues sturte thapde
But some faulte there was, leaue this of mynde
Other in thought, or yet in wordes playne
Your reasons be noight, your song goeth in dayne
By naturall person such loue is not found
In France, flanders, nor yet in any ground.

Howleglas.

The god of wyne, that bachus bath to name
The sender of fruytes, that maketh wyne all
May make, or make, or put them in frame.
All at his pleasure, and bise dyur all
He may the exalte in lyke wyse to fall
Their lord, and maister and chiefe gouernour
He may them destroye, and make in a houre.

The scole.

All to destroy, it is not by his myght
Nor yet for to make of that be thou sure
(Quintia per ipsum) saint Johan sayes full ryght
Than we call Christ, our god and our treasure
Presume not so hye, you sayle of your measure
Rede, heate, and see, and here well a waye
Unknowen vnseyde and for grace than pray.

Epale.

Howe Howleglas at Mollem was sycke, & how
he did syt in the poticaries boxes, and how
he was home in the holy ghoste.

As Howleglas was come from Merlendalle.
than he fell sycke and when he was sycke, he
went to Mollem, where he was lodged in a poticarys
house, for to make medicines therfore. Than shold
the poticarie geue to him a medicine for his sicknesse
and than he gatte to Howleglas a strange purgacion.
And in the morninge the purgacion begon to worke.
And than arose Howleglas for to haue gone to the
draughte, but he coude not fynde none: and so he be
syte all the chymber. And than he toke the .xii. boxes,
that the medicines were in, and he syt in euery one of
them, and he said. Here come out the medicines again

it were great pity to lose them, for I have no money to
geue hym for them. whan they potycary hearde these
wordes, than was he angry, & he would haue hym no,
longer in his house but toke & bare him into an hospi-
tal of the holy goff. And whan he was the within, tha
he said I have prayed god long that the holy goff might
cōe vnto me, but my prayer is cleue rotted, for I am
come into the holy goff, & he abydeth without me, & I
in hym. Than laughed the peple & said. As me liue: so
is the ende. Than herde his mother say that he was
sick: than she came to him, and she had thought for to
haue had some money of him, for she was olde & pore,
and whan she sawe him, she wept & sayd. where be ye
to sycke. And Howleglas sayd. here betwene the bed &
the wal. Than said his mother speke to me one sweet
word. than said Howleglas to his mother. homphomph,
is not that a sweete word, than said his mother, tell me
some thinge I may do me eme, than sayde Howleglas
to his mother, whil that you fill up your acle with
the wynd & than you shal fele no synke. Than said his
mother, geue me some of your good, than said Howle-
glas to his mother. he that hath none shal geue none
for the good is so secret that no man can fynde it, &
you can fynde any take it. And this Howleglas wiped
sweat & sicker, so that the folk asked him whether that he
would be gyven, for they saide wel that he shold not
recouer. than sayde an olde wyke that was a good
frende of his the counsailed him to be cōfessed & take
repentaunce for his synes, and so to say vnto god
god. And Howleglas sayd. I will not cōfesse my synes
I, for as that I haue done, I haue done it open to ma-
ny men by a pynnyll, and that is wel knowen. so;
the

they that I haue done good to, they will say good of
me. And they that I haue done harme to, the will say
harme of me. But I am very sorry of the thinges
which I could neuer bring to passe in my life. When
sayd the sister before of this matter, and began that
you did not these two thinges, if I be right. And
if the were good, be sorry because they were done.
Then sayd Doctologie, it is as much to be sorry for
I was sorry in my mynd when I sawe a man pynke
his te the with his hand, that I had not seen the
the end of it. The other is that I am sorry for, that I
did not make a wooden bridge in all womens aries.
I were above a lyeve, for they be neither chaste nor pro
fitable. I desire it for no others cause but this. It is
that the should not lye te on the ground, the which
beinge so hurtfull. Then said the sister to Doctologie
god saue all womend of that age all chalet but bene
more. For I haue met you were strong, and that
you had your might as you haue had before this. If
you would as you departed to her age mine arie, with a
wooden bridge, for I am a woman of it, yete a more.
Then he answered to the sister. I am right sorry. I
am sorry because it is not done. The sister then the sister
there much better that the deed had the. And an
Doctologie that I am sorry for a woman to be
I am angry but she is more than the deed. Then the
the sister departed and let her go.

And a collection of all this doctologie and his gilly father.

And the Doctologie was then that he and the
they brought to him a picture of a man when
I was some other. He thought in his mynd, this

wherewith he had
the priest into him and
your selfe, for ye haue done much
until you remember that you haue
now you haue gotten much money
hodie. And he said that night to the
end of the day as I am, and that I counte
for to do, and I shall order it well and remember you
heretofore, and do many masses for you. Then sayde
Howleglas. Good father if it please you to come at
noone agayne, than shall I make reby some money for
you. Then was the priest glad, & than departed. Then
tooke Howleglas an earthen pot & fylled it half ful
of turnes, & he thrusten thereon a lytle money, soo that
the burie was couered. And when it was noone, the
priest came and he sayd to Howleglas. Friend shall I
haue that I you promised me? And Howleglas sayde
ye. Then he set the pot before hym, and sayde. Take
now your selfe, but be not to hasty, nor put not your
hand to depe. Then sayde the priest I shall do as you
bid me. And Howleglas byd open the pot, and he had
the priest to grype the poye, for it was almost ful. Then
had the priest hasty, and put his hand into the pot, &
he gryped a great handfull. And when he felt it losse:
he pulled out his hand, and it was all to be witten.
Then the priest sayde. Ye maye well be called a deceiver,
for a deceiver, that haue deceived his goodly father,
and when ye be at the poynte of death. Then sayde
Howleglas to the priest. When I was I was the
best of you, & you haue not kept to me. And
that he was a deceiver, it was not my fault. Then
sayde the

And then he said to all other,
it was great pity that I
was, when thou shouldst have bene
free, and then the priest departed fro
Holegias called I priest againe, and
to hym. After parson come againe, & take
your money with you. But he went his waye and
made it as he hadde it not.

How Holegias made his testament.

In the meane time lered Holegias fether &
sicker, Than he called for I lordes to make his
testamente. And when they were come, he gave bys
goodes in. iii. partes. One parte to his kynfolke, an
other to the lordes of spolt, and the other to the par
son of Wolen, whi foruer he died. And he asked to be
buryed in cheshen mans buriall, and to syng for bys
soule, placebo and dirig. with masses & other good
seruyces, after the custome and blans. And then he
shewed to them a great chest I was wel barred with
iron, and some keyes thereto belonging, and he told
unto them, that in that chest was all his good, & than
he gave the chesse to them to kepe, that wer right he
ry for him. And the within a moneth after his death
than the four should take the keyes therof, and open
the chesse, and deale all the money for his soule. And
within a moyle after he departed. And when he was
dead: they wound hym in a wynding shete, and after
in a cofyn, and after on a bier. Than came the pres
byter and serchen hym to church and song for hym pla
cebo and dirig. And in the meane time came in a fowle
with her ppyges, and went under I Derr, for she had
founde

And so he came to the place where he was
buried here, where the priests and clerkes were a
scapoe, and they sawe that it was done, than they
can so fast & eche fell in others necke, for the thought
that he had bene tyen agayne and so they leste hym
there. And than the sisters of a womanery tooke the
coffe, and brought it to graue and buried it. And whā
a moneth was past, than came the three parties for to
unlocke the chesse, and for to deale the money for his
soule. And whā that they had opened the chesse: the
founde no other but stones therein. Than the wound-
ered theot, and the one looked on the other, and they
parson had wende, that the lordes had had the money
because they had the chesse in keepinge. And the lordes
wende that his frendes had opened the chesse and ta-
ke out the treasure, & put in stones the whyle that he
was lyke, and so to have spt the chesse agayne. And
his frendes wende that the curate had coueied þ tre-
sure whā that he confessed hym. And whā in a gret
anger they departed fro there for at the last þ knew
that it was he that had do it for to mocke them. And
after that the lordes and the curate agreed together
agayne, and so to bury hi vnder the galowes. And so
they dyd. And as they were deliuge of his graue, he
stank so sore, that they could not abide þ anye therof
And so they covered hym wyth earth agayne and lete
hym lye still, and so they departed.

How Holiglas was buried.

Thus as Hollegias was deade, than they
brought hym to be buried. And as they would
have

haue put the coffyn into the pytte wth .ii. cordes, the
corde at the fete brake, so that the fete of the corse fel
into the botome of the pyt, and the coffyn stode bolt
vpryght in the myddes of the graue. Then desired y
people that stode about the graue that tyme, to let y
coffyn to stande bolte vpryght. For in his lyfe tyme
he was a very maruclous man, and he did many w
derfull thynges, and shall be buried as maruclous
and in this maner they left Rowlegias stand bolt v
pryght in his graue, and they covered him wth earth

And than they layde a stone. And on the stone was
grauen an oule holding a glasse wth her clawes

And theron was grauen this scripture.

Presume no man a way, this stone

to take. For vnder this stone

was Rowlegias bur

ied last.

In the yere of our Lorde

God. M. C. C. C.

lytle.

And thus was Rowlegias buried.

And thus was Rowlegias buried.

And thus was Rowlegias buried.

And thus was Rowlegias buried.

And thus was Rowlegias buried.

And thus was Rowlegias buried.

And thus was Rowlegias buried.

And thus was Rowlegias buried.

And thus was Rowlegias buried.

And thus was Rowlegias buried.

And thus was Rowlegias buried.

And thus was Rowlegias buried.

And thus was Rowlegias buried.

Where begynneth the fable.

Howe Howleglas as he was borne was christe-
ned.iii. tymes vpon one daye.

How Howleglas answered a man that asked the
hyghe waye.

How that Howleglas sat vpon his fathers horse,
behynde hym.

How Howleglas fell fro the rope into the water.

How Howleglas mother learned hym, ad bad him
go to a craft.

How Howleglas gat bread for his mother.

Howe Howleglas was stolen out of a byr house, by
nyght.

How Howleglas was hyred of a pyrell.

How Howleglas was made a parlythe clacke.

How Howleglas wold flye fro a howle top.

How Howleglas made hymselfe a physicion, and
how he begyled a doctour with his medicines.

How Howleglas made a sicke chyld to lyde shyte, & a
fore myght not shyte, and howe he gat great worship
therof.

How Howleglas made hole all the spere folke that
were in the hospitall, where the were of our lord is.

How Howleglas was hyred to be a bakers seruāt.

How Howleglas was put in wages, with the for-
ter of Unbalte for to watche vpon a towet, to se whā
his enemies came, and than for to blowe an home to
warne them therof.

How Howleglas won a great deale of money with
a point of footysynesse.

How the duke of Lumborough harpyed How-
leglas.

leglas out of his lande.

How Howleglas set his hostysse vpon the hooft
attys with, her bare arce.

How Howleglas toke vpon him to be a paynter.

How Howleglas had a great disputacion with all
the doctours of Pragem in Bemen.

How Howleglas became a paadoner.

How Howleglas did eate for money, in the towne
Banberbette.

How Howleglas wēt to Rome to speke w the pope.

How Howleglas deceitied .iii. Jewes with durc.

How Howleglas had gotten the persons horse by
his confession.

How Howleglas was hyred of a blacke smyth.

How Howleglas was hyred of a shoemaker.

How Howleglas serued a tayler.

How Howleglas solde turdes for fat.

How Howleglas through his subtile disceytes de
ceitied a wyne drawer in Lubeke.

How Howleglas became a maker of Spectacles
and howe he could fynde no worke in no lande.

How Howleglas was hyred of a marchaunt man
to be his cooke.

How howleglas was desired to dynner.

How howleglas wane a piece of cloth, of a man of
the countrey.

How howleglas gaue .xx. gyldens to .xii. poore me
for Christs loue.

How howleglas feared his host w a dead moult.

How howleglas fled a hound and gaue the kyn
for halfe his dynner.

How howleglas serued y same house another tyme

How

And laye on a whele.

How Howleglas serued a holader wth a roasted Aple.

How Howleglas made a woman that sold erthen
potts to smyte them all in pieces,

How Howleglas brake the staryes that the munn
hes should come downe on to matyng, and how thei
fell downe into the yarde.

How Howleglas bought creame of the women of
the cuntrey that brought it for to sell.

How Howleglas came to a scholer, to make verses
with him to the vse of reason.

How Howleglas was secke at Golen and how he
dyd shyte in the peticaries boxes, and was borne in
the holy ghoste.

How Howleglas deceined his ghosly father.

How Howleglas made his testament.

How Howleglas was buried.

¶ Thus endeth the lyfe of Howleglas.

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(..)